Analecta Cæsarum Romanorum.

OR, SELECT

OBSERVATIONS

Of all the

ROMAN EMPERORS.

Illustrated with their several Effigies, according to their Coins.

The first Eighteen by

EDWARD LEIGH, Esq; } Masters of
The others added by his Son } Art of both
HENRY LEIGH,--- } Universities.

Also certain Choice

FRENCH PROVERBS

Alphabetically disposed and Englished, added by the same *Edward Leigh.*

The Fourth Edition, Corrected and much Enlarged.

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TO THE
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL
and his loving Father
HENRY LEIGH
Esquire.

Loving Father:

HOW much I am obliged unto you both for my being and well-being, I desire now to testifie unto the world; for though to requite your love and bounty be not within the sphear of my Activity, yet since the Apostle * commandeth Children to learn to requite their Parents,

* *Quicquid est, quod dat Patri Filius, utique minus est, quia hanc ipsam dandi facultatem Patri debet.* Seneca *lib. 3. de Beneficiis. Patribus & Diis non possumus retribuere æqualia Arist. 8. Ethic.* ἀμοιβὰς ἀποδιδόναι 1 Tim. 5. 4.

and Nature it ſelf hath taught the unreaſonable * Creatures this leſſon; I ſhall endeavour, (God aſſiſting me with his grace) to pay that three-fold debt, of reverence, obedience, and gratitude, which all children owe to their Parents: As *Æſchines* therefore, when he ſaw his fellow-Scholars give great gifts to *Socrates* (being poor, and have nothing elſe to beſtow) did give himſelf to *Socrates*, profeſſing to be wholly devoted unto him: ſo I ſhall ever devote my ſelf unto your ſervice, to whom (next under God) I owe my ſelf, and thoſe abilities I have, both natural, and which through Gods bleſſing upon your liberal education, by a double apprentiſhip in two * famous and flouriſhing Societies I have acquired. To expreſſe therefore

* The Fowl which teacheth children to requite their Parents is the Stork from στοργὴ naturall affection, and ſhe is called πελαργός; hence cometh ἀντιπελαργεῖν when children ſtudy to requite theire Parents

Magdalen-Hall in *Oxford*, and the Middle Temple in *London*.

therefore my due obſervance, and gratefull recognition of your former care, and coſt, and withal to give you ſome account of the fruitful ſpending of my time, I here preſent unto you ſome *Choice Obſervations* concerning the *twelve firſt Cæſars, Emperors of Rome.* A work (as I conceive) both delightful, and uſeful, and therefore to you (I hope) not unwelcome; as Geographers expreſs the whole world in a little Map, ſo have I laboured Graphically to deſcribe theſe great Monarchs of the world in a little model, neither ſtrictly tying my ſelf to any one Hiſtorian, nor relating all the paſſages of their lives, but excerping out of the moſt principal * Authors, ſuch things of them as were moſt memorable. Amongſt all which Writers (though

* *Tertul. Euſeb Eccleſ. Hiſt Joſephus. Plutarch. Taciti Hiſt. & Annal. Aurel. Vict.* Eutropius, *Pliny, Solinus*, Seneca, *Macrob. Saturn. Suetonius*, with *Caſaub. Animadverſ. Eraſ. Apotheg., & Chiliad.*

(though I confeſs *Tacitus* his ſtile is elegant, & full of wiſe ſententious * Apophtheg.) I have chiefly followed *Suet.* 1. becauſe my worthy *Tutor (whoſe memory I ſhall ever honour) made choice eſpecially (of that Hiſtory) to read to his Pupils. 2 Becauſe his Phraſe is pure and polite, and himſelf a faithful Hiſtorian: Of whom it is recorded (as I think) by *Eraſmus*, that he wrote the lives of the Romane Emperors, *prorſus ea libertate, qua ipſi vixerunt*, with the ſame freedom that they lived. *Alex. ab Alex. Genial. dier. lib.* 1. *c.* 1. calleth him *ſinceriſſimum ſcriptorem*, and *Ludov.* * *Vives*, *incorruptiſſimum*. And I deſire to write as freely and unpartially of them, ſince I may ſay of them all, as *Tacitus* doth of ſome of them

* *Eſt oratio Taciti mirum in modum arguta, & prudentiæ plena. Bodin. l. 4. de Method. Hiſt.*

* *Mr. William Pemble.*

* *Suetonius Tranquillus Græcorum & Latinorum ſcriptorum diligentiſſimus, atq; incorruptiſſimus, res duodecim Cæſarum videtur mihi integerrimè exponere; qui in optimis Principibus nec vitia, nec ſuſpiciones vitiorum tacet: in peſſimis vero colores virtutum non diſſimulat.*

Ludov. Vives de tradend. Diſcipl. lib. 5. Tranquillè & æqualiter fluit, rebuſque untcè addictus orationis ornamenta non negligens, ſed ſecurus præterit, & tamen hunc ipſum ornatum velut umbram non id agens trahit. Famian Strada. lib. 2. Proluſ. Hiſtor.

them, that they were *Mihi nec beneficio nec injuria cogniti*; only I ſhall herein fail, that I write not of theſe Emperors, *Stylo Imperatorio*, with a high and lofty ſtile. *Julius Cæſar* is here placed in the forefront, he being the firſt Emperor. *Ab Imperio dictus Imperator, cui commiſſa erat belli adminſtratio. Ut perpetuum Imperatoris nomen alicui aſſignaretur, id ab* Julio Cæſare *originem traxit, quem* Suetonius *tradit prænomen id perpetuum a Senatu accepiſſe. A* Julio *Imperatoris appellatio ad ſucceſſores derivata. Voſſii etymologicon linguæ latinæ.* For this title was at the firſt given unto him, that had fought valiantly for his Country, and ſlain many enemies; *Julius* * *Cæſar* (having brought the greateſt part of the then known world into the ſubjection

* Nature meant *Cæſar* for a Conqueror, when ſhe gave him both ſuch courage, and ſuch courteſie, both which put *Marius* into amaze. *They which durſt ſpeak to him, (ſaid he) were ignorant of his greatneſs; and they which durſt not, were ſo afraid of his goodneſs.*

jection of the Romans) was the first that was saluted by the title of absolute Emperor, and all the Emperors succeeding were called *Imperatores* & *Cæsares* from him, *Mat.* 22. 21. Yet because he ruled but a few months, and because the monarchical Government was in its vigour under *Augustus*, others make *Augustus* the first of the Romane Emperors, and *Augustus* the last. *Dunbar* in his fifth *Century of Epigrams* hath these verses of *Julius Cæsars* and Pope *Gregories* reforming the Kalendar.

Cæsar Gregoriusque annum dum jure reformant,
Deformant regni res sine jure, sui:
Scilicet antiqui facies a Cæsare regni
Versa est, a Papa Pristina religio:
Malo reformari civilem a Cæsare flammam,

Malo

Maloreformatam Gregoriiq; fidem. The Emperors after *Julius Cæſar* were called *Auguſti*, from *Octavius*, the ſecond Roman *Cæſar*, who revived the good laws, and reformed the bad. But the Emperors ſucceeding him, having more care to be great than good, rather raged than reigned, and the decrees of ſome of them *viz. Tiberius* and *Caligula*, are wittily termed *furores non judicia. Quatuor Principes ferro interempti*, (ſaith *Tacitus* in his Hiſtory) four of theſe Emperors were ſlain with the Sword, *Galba*, *Otho*, *Vitellius*, *Domitian*: which three firſt *Plutarch* compareth (in regard of their ſhort reign) to Kings in a Tragedy, which laſt no longer than the time that they are repreſented on the ſtage. *Julius Cæſar*, and *Caligula* were

Imperatores omnes ad Vitellium præcipuè Cæſarum genus, adeo literis exculti fuerunt, ut nicunctis vitiis Auguſto excepto nimii fueſſent, tant æ dotes minora flagitia texiſſent Aurel. *Victor. in Vitellio. Vide Grotii Epiſt. Principi Condæo, Martiano Capellæ De nuptiis Philologiæ & Mercurii præfixam.*

were alſo ſlain, *Claudius*, and *Titus* were poiſoned, *Nero* ſlew himſelf, **Auguſtus* dyed in a complement, *Tiberius* in diſſimulation, *Galba* with a ſentence, *Veſpaſian* with a jeſt, yet he died peaceably in his Bed, which no Emperor ſince *Auguſtus* ever did. The * Heathens ſhadowed the ſting of conſcience by the Eagle or Vulture that fed upon the heart of *Prometheus*, and by the three Virgins which they called Furies, following men in a hideous form, with burning torches in their hands, which ſome of the worſt of theſe Heathen Emperors really felt after their bloody cruelties, and verified that old Maxime; "he muſt needs fear many, whom many fear. **Caligula* (though he contemned the gods as they called them) yet at the leaſt

* *Auguſtus Cæſar* died in a complement; *Livia, conjugii noſtri memor, vive, & vale.*

Tiberius in diſſimulation; as *Tacitus* ſaith of him. *Jam Tiberium vires & corpus, non diſſimulatio, deſerebant.*

Veſpaſian in a Jeſt, ſitting upon the ſtool, *Vt puto Deus fio.*

Galba with a ſentence, *Feri, ſi ex re ſit Populi Romani;* holding forth his Neck.

Bacons laſt Eſſayes in 4.

* *Macrob. lib.* 1. *in ſomn. Scipion. Timeo incuſtoditos aditus, timeo & ipſos cuſtodes.*

* See in the Book of him, and *Domitian.*

leaſt thundering and lightening would run under his bed, an cover his head. * *Nero* that monſter of Mankind having killed his Mother *Agrippina*, could never after endure the worm and ſting of conſcience for his foul fact, but confeſſed that he was often haunted with the apparition of his mothers Ghoſt, and tormented alſo with ſcourges, and burning torches of the Furies. We may take notice of many Moral vertues alſo in the beſt of theſe Heathens. *Julius Cæſar*, *Auguſtus*, *Veſpaſian*, and *Titus* that mirror of humanity, and ſee in them the truth of that old Maxime, *Magiſtratus virum indicat* "a place ſheweth "the man; and it ſheweth ſome to be better, ſome to be worſe. It was ſaid of *Caligula*, that there was never better ſervant and worſe

* *Dion* in *Nerone.* Our Engliſh Chronicles report of King *Richard* the third, that having imbrued his hands in the Blood of two Orient Princes, he never after had quiet in his mind, his body was privily fenced, his hand ever upon his Dagger, his countenance grim & gaſtly, his ſleep unquiet, for he rather ſlumbred than ſlept. The night before the Battel fought in Boſworth-Field, he dreamed a terrible dream. *Credo non erat ſomnium, ſed Conſcientia ſcelerum. Polyd. Virgil.*

worſe Maſter: *Omnium conſenſu capax Imperii, niſi imperaſſet*, ſaith *Tacitus* of *Galba*: but of *Veſpaſian* he ſaith, *Solus Imperatorum Veſpaſianus mutatus in melius*. But leſt I ſhall be upbraded, with the City of *Myndus*, for making my Porch too big, here will I caſt Anchor, ever remaining

Your dutiful Son
to command,

EDWARD LEIGH.

Cæſar *was War*; Auguſtus *Peace: impure*
Tiberius *was*; Caligula *paſt cure.*
Claudius *was Dotard*; Nero *beaſtly mad:*
Galba *ſtale*; Otho *trim*; Vitellius *Swad.*
Veſpatian's *ſhrewd and baſe*; Titus *more good*
Than bad: Domitian *is Pride, Luſt, and Blood.*

Dr. Holiday's *Survey of the World, Lib.* 8.

Julius

Julius Cæsar.

THe *Julii* were ſo called (ſaith *Alex. ab Alex.*) *à prima barbæ lanugine*, from the firſt wooll or down of the beard. Others think the name of the *Julii* came from *Julus Aſcanius*, the Son of *Æneas*.

Gen. dier lib. 1. c. 9. Ἰούλος in *Gr.* (ſaith he) ſignifieth *Primam in mento lanuginem.*

At puer Aſcanius, cui nunc cognomen Iulo. *Virg. lib. 2. Æneid.*

He reformed the Kalendar which was then confuſed, and framed the whole year juſt unto the courſe of the Sun, that it ſhould contain 365 daies, and appointed that every fourth year a whole day ſhould be inſerted. Therefore we call our year *Annum Julianum*, and the Kalendar which we uſe *Calendarium Julianum*; and that Month which was by them called *Quintilis*, becauſe it was the fifth Month, is now called *July* in honour of him.

Annum ad curſum Solis accommodavit. Sueton.

He was born in that month *Macrob. Saturn. cap. 12.*

For his other name *Cæſar*, there are different opinions of the original of it. Some derive it *à cæſiis oculis*, from his grey eies. But *Suetonius* * refutes that, and ſaith he had black eies. Others ſay he was ſo called *à Cæſarie*, from a buſh of hair with which he was born. Some ſay he was *cut out of his Mothers womb: although *Feſtus Pompeius* thinks ſuch are rather to be called *Cæſones*, and *Caſaubon* * rejecteth that Etymologie. *Poſtellus* in his introduction, in *Chaldaic. Ling. &c.* ſaith the firſt *Cæſar* could not be denominated, *à Cæſo matris utero, cum id nomen ante illum Cæſarem, qui ſecta matre in lucem prodiit; pro Rege jam diu uſurpatum ſit. Cæſonis nomine inſignes plures extiterunt, è quibus Cæſo Fabius, Cæſo Quintius. Dictos autem Cæſones à Cæſo matris utero, qui necatis matribus nati ſunt, tradunt. Plin. Hiſt. Nat. l. 7. c. 9. Et Valer. Prob. Unde et Cæſaris nomen ortum ſumpſiſſe ſunt qui opinentur, ut Æl. Spartian in Æl. Vero et Serv. in Æn. 10. aliis tamen in alia euntibus. Gatak. Annotat. in Lib. 4. Marci Antonini Imperatoris.* Others derive it *à Cæſo Elephanto*, from his Grand-fathers killing an Elephant, which in the Carthaginian tongue is called *Cæſar*. *Sigonius* ſpeaks much of it, but ſo that it ſhould ſeem to be *ambiguæ fidei*, and therefore I ſhall leave it undetermined.

He was tall (*a*) of ſtature, white and clear of complexion, ſomewhat full-faced, his limbs were well truſſed, & in good plight, his

* *Sueton.* deſcribes him to have been, *Nigris vegetiſque oculis micantibus*, of a black quick ſparkling eie.

* *Primus Cæſar, à Cæſo Matris utero dictus.*

* *Animadverſ. in Sueton. Alex. ab Alex. Gen. dier. l. 1. c. 9. Beckman de Orig. Ling. Latin. vide Chriſtiani Matth. Theatr. Hiſtor. Theor. Pract. in Jul. Cæſ. cap. 1. Et Commentar. Schild. in Suetonium.*

(*a*) *Forma omnium civium excellentiſſimus, vigore animi acerrimus, munificentiæ effuſiſſimus.* Paterculus.

his eies black, lively, and quick. He was alſo very healthful, ſaving that in his latter daies he was given to faint, and ſwoon ſuddenly. *Comitiali quoque morbo bis inter res agendas correptus eſt*, ſaith *Suetonius*, twice in the midſt of his Martial affairs, he was ſurprized with the falling ſickneſs, which he ſtileth *Morbum comitialem*, either becauſe it chiefly invadeth, and ſeizeth on men in *Comitiis*, in popular Aſſemblies; or becauſe their *Comitia*, their Parliaments or Aſſemblies were diſſolved, and broke up by occaſion thereof, if any chanced to fall ſick of that diſeaſe, they reputing ſuch an accident to be a ſiniſter preſage.

Seu inter res gerendas. i. e. *cum aciem ordinaret. Plutarch.* Whiles he was ſetting his Army in battel aray. *Fuchſ. Inſtit. Medic. l.* 3. *Sect.* 1. *c.* 11. *Plato morbum divinum appellat, quia occupat in nobis divinæ particulam auræ. Alii morbum ſacrum, vel quia*

Eſt Morbi ſpecies ſubiti cui nomen ab illo eſt,
Quod fieri nobis ſuffragia juſta recuſant.
Sæpe etenim membris acri languore caducis,
Concilium populi labes horrenda diremit.

deteſtandus eſt, vel quia divinitus immittitur. Dicitur etiam Herculeus, *quia Hercules eo laboravit; item vulgo caducus.* Lipſius.

In Eloquence and warlike feats together, he either equalled, or excelled the glory of the very beſt.

See *Plinies* Natural Hiſt. l. 7. c. 25.

Eloquentia attigit ſummorum gloriam: re militari exceſſit. Lipſius.

Cæſar *qui ne ſcait moins bien faire, que bien dire.*

Cæſar who knows as well to write, as fight.

He held a Sword in one hand, and a Book in the other, with this Motto, *Ex utroque Cæſar*, Emperor by both.

Imperatoriam Majeſtatem non ſolum armis decoratam, ſed etiam legibus oportet eſſe armatam, ut utrumque tempus & bellorum, & pacis recte poſſit gubernari. Juſtinian. *Proœm. Inſtitut.*

He was counted the ſecond man for Eloquence in his time, and gave place to the firſt; becauſe he would be the firſt and chiefeſt man of war, and Authority. *Julius Cæſar, Scaliger* writeth thus of him: *Duæ ſunt aquilæ ſolæ in natura rerum, altera bellicæ laudis, altera literariæ; illa potentiæ, hæc ſapientiæ*; Cæſar & Ariſtoteles. *Exercit. 94. Sect. 2.*

Summis Oratoribus æmulus. Tacit. He was *Cicero's* rival in Eloquence.

Paterculus reckoning up the famous wits of thoſe times, ſaith, *Et proximum Ciceroni Cæſarem.* Nay *Cicero* himſelf in his Catalogue of Orators to *Brutus*, * ſaith, He cannot ſee any to whom *Cæſar* might give place, and he highly commends him in his Oration *pro Marcello. Eſt ejus viri pura oratio, ſine fuco ac calamiſtris ornata, vel Romanis, vel Atticis Muſis digniſſima.* Lipſius. *Aulus Gellius ſcribit Cæſarem ſermonis fuiſſe præter alios ſuæ ætatis caſtiſſimi.*

* *Illum omnium fere Oratorum latinè loqui elegantiſſimè*, ſaith *Aticus* there of him. *Cæſar quotidiano ſermoni egregiè utiliſſimus, cui Cicero laudem tribuit puri & incorrupti ſermonis Latini. Ludov. Viv. l. 3. de tradend. Diſcipl.*

He left Commentaries of his own Acts, touching the *Gaul* war, and the Civil war between *Pompey* and him. Commentaries (ſaith B. *De Vigenere* in his annotations on *Cæſars* Comment. of the *Gaul* war) are little particular memories which one makes either for himſelf, or for another, containing only the principal heads of the deeds and acts, of which he will after write a Hiſtory at his better leiſure: *Cæſars* Commentaries, (Sr. *Francis Bacon* * ſaith) is the beſt Hiſtory of the world. King *James* exhorting his Son to the

* Advance of Learn. Βασλ. Sæc. l. 2. *Commentarios quoſdam ſcripſit rerum ſuarum valde quidem probandos; nudi enim ſunt, recti, & venuſti: ſanos quidem homines à ſcribendo deterruit.* Cicero de Clar. Orat.

the ſtudy of Hiſtory, above all prophane Writers, commendeth this Book of *Cæſars* to his reading, both for the ſweet flowing of the ſtile, and the worthineſs of the matter it ſelf. *Qui non minor rerum ſuarum præco fuerit quàm earundem actor*; ſaith *Grotius* in his Epiſtle to the Prince of *Condee*, prefixed to *Martianus Capella*. He ſaith there alſo that he wrote excellent Tragedies, and moſt large commendations of *Hercules*, of *Grammar*, and his own journies moſt elegantly, and highly commends his *Anticatones*.

He was a famous Mathematician, and diligent in that ſtudy, as *Lucan* writes of him.

——— *Media inter prælta ſemper*
Stellarum, cœlique plagis ſuperiſque vacavi.

He could at one time read and write, hear and indite, and if he did nothing elſe, he could dictate to 7 Actuaries or Penmen at once.

Scribere & legere ſimul, dictare, & audire accepimus: Epiſtolas vero tantarum rerum quaternas pariter librariis dictare, aut, ſi nihil aliud ageret, ſeptenas. Pliny's *Natural Hiſt. l.7.c.25.*

We ought to admire two things in him, which he had to perfection, and which render a Commander excellent; *viz.* that he forecaſt and provided for all things which might either further or hinder his deſign before he undertook it; and that in the very execution he failed not to take his advantage when occaſion preſented it, or to remedy upon the inſtant ſuch unexpected accidents as befel; wherein he hath been inimitable. The Duke of *Rohan's Obſerv.* upon *Cæſars Comment. L.6.*

Anthony De Bandole hath parallel'd *Cæſar* and *Henry* the fourth King of *France*. Both had (ſaith he) very high conceptions, a ſolid judgment, reſolute execution; both were valiant, provident, firm to their deſigns, undertaking with confidence, guiding it with dexterity, overcoming all with valour. *See more there.*

In his Enterprizes he was both valiant and fortunate, and therefore ſingled out for an *Idea* or pattern of an abſolute General, eſpecially for four military properties very reſplendent in him. Firſt, laborioufneſs in his affairs. Secondly, courage in his dangers. Thirdly, induſtrious contriving of what he undertook. Fourthly, quick diſpatch in accompliſhing what he had once begun.

Speed Chron.

——— *Nam* Cæſar *in omnia præceps,*
Nil actum credens, ſi quid ſupereſſet agendum.

Lucan.

Quintus Curtius ſpeaking of *Alexander* the Great, ſaith, *Nullam virtutem Regis iſtius magis quàm celeritatem laudaverim.* I can commend no vertue more in this King than ſpeed.

In eleven daies he marched with his army ſix hundred miles.

Suetonius affirmeth, that *Cæſar* did ever march formoſt before his troops, and moſt commonly bare-headed, and on foot, whether the Sun ſhined, or it rained. *Tully* reports of him, that he was never heard to ſay to his Soldiers, *Ite illuc*, go forth thither, as they ſhould go forth upon

upon service, and he tarry behind in his Tent; but * *Venite huc*, Come ye hither.

* As you see me do, so do ye. *Judg.* 7.

17. One saith the like of *Trajan*, that in all hazards and perils he never said unto his Captains Go, but let us go: Do, but let us do.

——*Ignave, venire* Te Cæsar, *non ire jubet.* Lucan. *l.* 5. *v.* 487.

Pertinax was wont to say to his Soldiers *Militemus*; and *Severus Septimius*, *Laboremus*: *Livy* bringeth in *Valerius Corvinus* thus speaking; *Facta mea, non dicta vos milites sequi volo, nec disciplinam modo, sed exemplum etiam à me petere.*

The two principal men of the world, *Alexander* and *Cæsar*, have slain each of them (as *Pliny* reporteth) more than a million of men.

Under his conduct were slain eleven hundred fourscore and two thousand enemies. He fought in pitched field two and fifty times, saith *Solinus*, fifty saith *Pliny*, and never was so much as in any hazard save only twice.

Signis collatis quinquagies dimicavit. Plin. *Natural. Hist. lib.* 7. *c.* 25. He took 1000 Towns, conquered 300 Nations.

He conquered all *France*, *Germany*, discovered us *Britains*, and made us Tributary; and triumphed five times in *Rome* with unspeakable admiration.

It is observable, that in all his wars he hath alwaies been inferiour to his enemies in number, for which cause he hath alwaies helped himself by fortifications, more than ever any other hath done; which he made much the better, when he found himself not sufficiently strong to give battel, as he was a long time in *Africa*: insomuch that *Scipio* wondred at his

coldneſs; nevertheleſs he alwaies continued his Soldiers in exerciſe, and himſelf exerciſed new levyed men, and entred them by ſmall skirmiſhes, wherein by his induſtry for the moſt part he had the beſt, and alwaies attempted ſomething upon his enemy. The Duke of *Rohan's Obſerv.* on *Cæſars Comm. L.* 5.

Suetonius. Nec vana de ſe prædicatio eſt Cæſaris, ante victum hoſtem eſſe quam viſum. L. Flor.

Tam celer in agendo & conſulta exequendo, ut perſæpe nuntios de ſe prævenerit. He is renowned for his celerity in doing, and preventing the very report of his coming.

Cæſar hath made himſelf as much redoubted and admired by the great works which he cauſed his Soldiers to make, as by his great Battels. The Duke of *Rohan's* treatiſe of *Modern War. c.* 4.

Having overcome King *Pharnaces*, and being deſirous to advertiſe one of his friends of his quick expedition in diſpatching that war, he only wrote three words unto *Anitius* at *Rome*, *Veni, vidi, vici*, I came, I ſaw, I overcame.

Charles the fift Emperor of *Germany* ſaid, *Veni, vidi, Deus vicit.* Surius *in bello Germanico.*

Suetonius.

He never put enemy to flight but he diſcamped him, and drave him out of the field: By this means he gave them whom he had once diſcomfited no time to bethink themſelves.

In

In any doubtful and dangerous ſervice, his manner was to ſend away the Horſes, and his own with the firſt, to the end that when all means of flight were gone, they might of neceſſity be forced the rather to ſtand to it, and abide to the laſt. *Suetonius.* So *William* the Conqueror at his arrival into *England*, burnt the ſhips which tranſported his Army.

Lucan ſeemeth to have alluded to this:
Bellorum o ſocii, qui mille pericula mortis.

He called not his Soldiers * *Milites*, but *Commilitones*: not plain Soldiers, but by a more pleaſing name, Fellow-ſoldiers. He maintained them ſo trim and brave, that he ſtuck not to ſet them out in poliſhed Armour, damasked with ſilver and gold, as well for goodly ſhew, as becauſe they ſhould in * Battel keep the ſame more ſurely for fear of damage and loſs. * *Auguſtus* did much reprove this humour in his Uncle, ſaying, *Dum affectat carior fieri, auctoritatem Principis emollivit. Aurel. Vict.*
* *Suetonius.*

He loved them ſo affectionately, that when he heard of *Tiberius* his overthrow, and the Legions with him: he ſuffered the hair of his head and beard to grow long, and would not cut the ſame before he had revenged their death. By which means he both had his Soldiers moſt devoted unto him, and alſo made them truly valiant. It is reported of *Alexander*, that he infuſed ſuch courage into his Souldiers. *Ut illo præſente, nullius hoſtium arma vel inermes timuerint.* Juſtin. *l.* 12. *c. ult.* *Cæſars* eye made his Souldiers prodigal of their blood. *Plutarchs Lives.*

He was ſo entirely beloved of his Soldiers, that to do him ſervice (whereas otherwiſe they were but like other men in any other private quarrel) if *Cæſars* honour

nour were touched, they were invincible, and would ſo deſperately, and with ſuch fury venture themſelves, that no man was able to abide them.

A private Soldier of his fought ſo valiantly in *Britain*, that by his means he ſaved the Captains, which otherwiſe were in great danger to have been caſt away (being driven into a Bogg;) then marching with great pain through the mire and dirt, half ſwimming, and half a foot, in the end he got to the other ſide, but left his ſhield behind him: *Cæſar* wondering at his noble courage, ran to him with joy to embrace him: but the poor Soldier hanging down his head, the water ſtanding in his eyes, fell down at *Cæſars* feet, and beſought him to pardon him for leaving his Target behind him. Plutarch.

Petronius being taken by *Scipio*, he ſaid he would give him his life; but he anſwered him again, that *Cæſars* Soldiers did not uſe to have their lives given them, but to give others their lives; and with theſe words he drew his ſword and thruſt himſelf through.

Cæſar at *Alexandria* being buſie about the aſſault and winning of a Bridge, was driven by a ſudden ſally of the enemies to take a Boat, and many beſides making haſt to get into the ſame, he leapt into the ſea, and by ſwimming almoſt a quarter of a mile recovered the next ſhip, bearing up his left hand all the while, for fear *Plutarchs* Lives.

fear the writings he held therein should take wet, and drawing his rich coat-armour after him by the teeth, because the enemy should not have it as a spoil.

Paludamentum mordicus trahens, ne spolio potiretur hostis. Sueton.

Beholding advisedly the Image or portraicture of *Alexander* the Great in the Temple of *Hercules* at *Cales*, at the sight thereof he fetched a deep sigh, as being ashamed that he had yet performed no memorable act at those years, wherein *Alexander* had conquered the whole world.

Milites erant sagati, Imperatores paludati. Plutarch *and* Suetonius *in C. Julio. c. 7. i. e.* 33.

Sæpe audivi Q. Maximum, P. Scipionem, præterea civitatis nostræ præclaros viros solitos ita dicere, cum majorum imagines intuerentur, vehementissimè sibi animum ad virtutem accendi; scilicet non ceram illam, neque figuram, tantam vim insese habere; sed memoria rerum gestarum eam flammam egregiis viris in pectore crescere, neque prius sedari, quàm virtus eorum famam atque gloriam adæquaverit. Sallust. *in Bello Jugurthino.*

He was very much disquieted and dismayed with a dream the very night before, (for he imagined in his sleep that he had carnal company with his Mother:) the Diviners and Wizards incited him to the hopes of most glorious achievements, making this exposition of his dream, that thereby was portended unto him the soveraignty of the whole World; for his Mother whom he saw under him, betokened the subjection of the Earth, which is counted the mother of all things.

Suetonius *ubi supra.*

Ita visum interpretari vanissimæ artis auctoribus vanissimis. Casaubon. *Animadvers.*

There were two Factions in *Rome* at that time, *Sylla* was the chief of the one, and *Marius* of the other; *Marius* stood for the people, and *Sylla* defended the Nobles

bles. *Marius* and all his Confederates were proclaimed Traitors, and enemies to the Common-wealth. *Sylla* determining to kill *Cæſar*, ſome of his friends told him, that it was to no purpoſe to put ſo young a Boy as he was to death: but *Sylla* anſwered again, *Cæſari multos Marios inesſe*, that there were many *Marii* in that one Boy; implying, that he would be a great enemy unto their State. When the day of Election for *ſummus Pontifex* came, he told his Mother (kiſſing him) that that day ſhe ſhould ſee her Son chief Biſhop of *Rome*, or baniſhed from *Rome*.

Plutarch. Suetonius.

He ſaid, he had rather be the chiefeſt man in a poor Village, than the ſecond perſon in *Rome*.

Lucan. *Nec quenquam jam ferre poteſt Cæſarve priorem,*
Pompejuſve parem. --------

He did extreamly affect the name of King, and ſome were ſet on, as he paſſed by, in popular acclamation to ſalute him King; whereupon finding the cry weak and poor, he put it off thus in a kinde of jeſt, as if they had miſtaken his ſur-name, *Non Rex ſum, ſed Cæſar.*

He often uſed theſe verſes of *Euripides*, which he himſelf thus tranſlated.

Nam ſi violandum eſt jus, Imperii cauſa
Violandum eſt, aliis rebus pietatem colas.

He alone managed all the affairs of State: his Collegue or Fellow-Conſul did nothing, in ſo much as divers Citizens pleaſantly

fantly conceited, whensoever they signed, subscribed, or dated any writings to stand upon records, would merrily put it down thus; Such a thing was done not when *Cæsar* and *Bibulus*, but when *Julius* and *Cæsar* were Consuls; setting down one & the same man twice by his name and surname; yea, and soon after these verses were commonly currant.

Non Bibulo quidquam nuper, sed Cæsare factum est:
Nam Bibulo fieri Consule nil memini.
Cæsar *of late did many things, but* Bibulus *not one:*
For nought by Consul Bibulus *can I remember done.*

He was such an excellent Rider of a Horse from his youth, that holding his hands behind him, he would gallop his Horse upon the spur. The Horse he used to ride upon was strangely marked, with feet resembling very near a mans, and the hoofs cloven like toes. * The Beast would abide no man else to ride him, and he himself was the first that backed him. Solinus. Suetonius. * Like to *Alexanders* Bucephalus. *Plutarch.*

Equitandi usus Cæsari a pueritia facilis adeo extitit ut reflexis in tergum manibus, equum velocissimis concitare cursibus sæpe consueverit. Plutarch.

When one brought him his Horse to get upon, which he used in Battel, he said unto him; When I have overcome mine enemies I will get upon him to follow the chase, but now let us give them charge.

Benignitate adeo præditus, ut quos armis subegerat, clementia magis vicerit. He was of so good a nature, that such as he subdued by Battel, he more overcame with gentleness.

Solinus. He gloried in nothing so much (saith *Aust.* 5. Ep.) as in pardoning his enemies, and gratifying his friends.

He

He held neuters for his friends, contrary to *Pompey*, who held them for enemies. *Aurel. Vict.*

He ſaid the greateſt pleaſure he took of his victories was, that he daily ſaved the lives of ſome of his country-men that bare arms againſt him.

Cæſar dando, ſublevando, ignoſcendo, gloriam adeptus eſt. Saluſt. *in bel. Catilin.*

Idem dixit, non mihi placet vindicta, ſed victoria.

When *Pompey*'s head was preſented to him, *Uberrimas lachrymas profudit*, he wept bitterly, and cauſed him to be honourably buried, ſaying; *Ego Pompeii caſum deploro, & meam fortunam metuo*: I lament *Pompey*'s fall, and fear mine own fortune.

Dion.

When he found many Letters in *Pompey*'s coffers, wherein divers teſtified their good will unto *Pompey*, and their hatred towards him, he neither read them, nor copied them out; but preſently burnt them, leſt being exaſperated by them, he ſhould have been forced to have committed ſome greater evil.

King *Cotis* having received for a Preſent many beautiful and rich Veſſels, yet frail and eaſie to be broken, brake them all; that he might not be ſtirred to choler when they ſhould happen to be broken.

*Plutarch *in* Tullies *life*. *Pompeii ſtatas erigendo ſuas confirmavit.*

When *Pompey*'s Images had been thrown down, he cauſed them to be ſet up again, and * *Cicero* thereupon uſed this ſpeech, that *Cæſar* in ſetting up *Pompey*'s Images again, made his own to ſtand ſurer.

He accounted his conqueſt of the two *Pompeys* (Sons to *Pompey* the great) in *Andaluzia* in *Spain*, the moſt glorious of all his victories; for he would often ſay afterwards, that at other times he fought for Fame and Victory, but that day he fought for

for his life, which he had never fought for before.

When some of his friends did counsel him to have a Guard for the safety of his Person, and some also did offer themselves to serve him, he would never consent unto it; but said, It was better to dye once, than alwaies to be afraid of death. Plutarch. Sueton.

Mori satius est semel, quàm timore semper torqueri.

He said also, *Mori se quam timeri malle*, saith *Paterculus*, when some advised him to keep by Armes what he had got by Armes.

When he was hindered by one of the Tribunes from taking some of the common Treasure out of *Saturns* Temple, and told that it was against the Law, Tush, said he, Time of Warre and Law are two things.

Silent leges inter Arma.

That speech of his was compounded both of terrour and clemency, to *Metellus* the Tribune; for *Cæsar* entring into the inner Treasury of *Rome* to take the money there kept, *Metellus* forbad him; whereto *Cæsar* said, That if he did not desist, he would lay him dead in the place; and presently taking himself up, he added, young man, it is harder for me to speak it, than do it.

Adolescent difficilius est mihi hoc dicere, quàm facere.

* He was a spare drinker of Wine, as his very enemies confessed, whence arose that Apophthegm of *Cato*, *That of all that ever were*, Cæsar *alone came sober to the overthrow of the State.*

* *Magno illi Alexandro, sed sobrio, neque iracundo simillimus; qui semper & somno & cibo in vitam, non in voluptatem uteretur.* Paterculus. Plut. Sueton.

He

He was the firſt that deviſed the way for friends to talk together by writing Cyphers in letters, when he had no leiſure to ſpeak with them for his urgent buſineſs, and for the great diſtance from *Rome*.

He ſaid, *Cæſars* wife ought not only to be without fault, but alſo without all ſuſpition of fault.

Plutarch. *in Apophtheg.* *Dixit invidere ſe Catoni mortem, quando ſibi ſalutem invidiſſet.*

Being certified that *Cato* had ſlain himſelf with his own hands, he ſeemed to be very ſorry for it, and ſaid, O *Cato*, I envy thy death, becauſe thou didſt envy my glory to ſave thy life.

Plutar. in the life of *Cato*.

Cicero wrote a book in commendation of *Cato*, to juſtifie that action, which *Cæſar* anſwered with another, which he called *Anti-Cato*, both which are loſt. *Schildius* out of *Beroaldus* ſaith, *Cicero* wrote a book intituled *Cato*, in commendation of him, which vexed *Cæſar*, becauſe he conceived the commendation of the other tended to his diſpraiſe, and therefore he wrote two books againſt *Cato*, diſcovering his crimes, called *Anti-Catones*.

Being in a Pinnace or ſmall Boat in a great ſtorm, he ſaid to the Maſter of it: *Fellow, be of good cheer, for thou haſt* Cæſar *and his fortune with thee.*

Cæſarem vehis, & fortunam ejus.

So *Charles* the fifth taking his Horſe to ruſh into the main battel, was requeſted to forbear; but he anſwered, *An Emperor was never ſhot through with a bullet.*

So

So *William* the ſecond of *England*, coming to imbark at Portſmouth, the Maſter told him the weather was rough, and there was no paſſing without imminent danger, *Tuſh*, ſaid he, *ſet forward, I never yet heard of a King that was drowned. Dan. Hiſt.*

Yet I may ſay of him as our Chronicler doth of one of our Engliſh Kings, *Inerant illi confuſo quodam temperamento, virtutes magnæ & vitia non minora.* *Cambd.* in Annal. De *Henrico* 8.

Suetonius and others, ſpeak of his unnatural uncleanneſſe and prodigious prodigality. He ſtole out of the Capitol 108000 pounds (reduced to our money) in gold at once, gave to *Servilia* a Jewel which coſt him 46875 pounds, owed 1953125 pounds more than he was worth by his own confeſſion. His ſhews and publick Donations in coſtlineſſe are almoſt invaluable. *Julian* the Emperour in his Satyr upon the Roman Emperours Taxeth his ambition. *Plin.* Lib. 7. c. 25.

About the trimming of his body he was over curious, ſo as he would not only be ſhaven very preciſely, but alſo have his hair plucked. *Circa corporis curam moroſior, ut non ſolum tonderetur diligenter, ac raderetur, ſed velleretur etiam* Suetonius.

The chiefeſt cauſe that made him mortally hated, was his exceſſive deſire of honour, and his ſlighting the Senators.

When his friends complained unto him of *Antonius* and *Dolabella*, that they intended ſome miſchief towards him, he anſwered them again, *As for theſe fat men, and ſmooth-combed-heads*, quoth he, *I never reckon of them, but thoſe pale-viſaged, & carrion lean people, I fear them moſt*; meaning *Brutus* and *Caſſius*. *Odi pallidos & macilentos.*

He never refuſed to fight but in his latter daies being then of this opinion, that the oftner he had gotten victory, the leſſe he was to venture, and make trial of fortune: alſo that a victory could gain him nothing ſo much as ſome diſaſtrous calamity might take from him.

There conſpired againſt him more than threeſcore, the heads of which conſpiracy were *Caſſius* and *Brutus*. He had fair warning of his death before it came, by many evident prodigies; Fires were ſeen in the Element, & ſpirits running up and down in the night, and ſolitary Birds at noonday ſitting in the great Market-place; as the Bird *Regaliolus* did flye with a little branch of Lawrel into the Court of *Pompeius*, a ſort of other Birds of divers kinds from out of the Grove hard by purſued after, and there pulled it in pieces.

Or *Regaviolus quaſi Rex avium.* Caſaub. *Animadverſ.*

Cæſar ſacrificing to the gods, found that one of the Beaſts which was ſacrificed, had no heart, and that was a ſtrange thing in Nature, how a Beaſt could live without a heart.

Nec centum victimis perlitare poterat. Florus, l. 4. Hiſt. Rom. c. 2.

There was a certain *South-ſayer* that had given *Cæſar* warning long before, to take heed of the day of the *Ides* of *March* (which is the fifteenth of the Month,) for on that day he ſhould be in a great danger. That day being come, *Cæſar* going unto the Senate-houſe, and ſpeaking merrily to the *South-ſayer*, told him, The *Ides* of *March* were come: So they be, ſoftly anſwered the *South-*

Eo ipſo die dum ad ſenatum iret, libelli conjurationem & conjuratorum nomina indicantes, inmanus ipſi traditi.

South-sayer, but yet they are not past.

[*Christianus Matthias Theat. Histor. Theoret. Pract. in Jul. Cap.* 3. hath an elegant and memorable parallel history. *Plutarch. Suetonius.*

Henry the 4. King of *France* was disswaded from going abroad that day he was slain, by some, as a day mark't out by Astrologers to portend danger to his person: yet he, a second *Cæsar* as well in the course of his life as of his death, was little sway'd therewith, but like a King, and a Christian replyed; that it was an offence to God to give credit to these Prognostiques, & that having God to his guard, he feared no man. *The Life and death of Henry the* 4.]

The night before this Discourse had with the *South-sayer*, all the windows and doors of his chamber did flye open, and his Wife *Calphurnia* dreamed that *Cæsar* was slain, & that she had him in her arms.

He was stabbed with 23 wounds; he onely gave one groan at the first thrust, without uttering any words. Some say, That as M. *Brutus* came running upon him, he said, καὶ σὺ τέκνον; *And thou my Son?* *Sueton.* He was slain in *Pompeys* Court. *Tribus & viginti vulneribus ad terram datus est; sic ille qui terrarum orbem civili sanguine impleverat, tandem ipse sanguine suo curiam implevit.* Luc. Flo. *l.* 4. *Hist. Rom. c.* 2.

All men are of opinion, that such a death befel unto him as he desired; for when he had read in *Xenophon* how *Cyrus* being at the point of death, gave order for his Funeral, he seting light by so slow & lingering a kind of death, wished to dye quickly and of a sudden.

The very day before he was killed, in a certain discourse moved at super in *Mar-*

cus Lepidus his houſe, upon that point, which was the beſt end of a mans life? He perferred that which was ſudden and unlooked for.

In the 8. *Septenarie.* Plutarch. Sueton. *Deum honor principi non ante habetur quam agere inter homines deſierat.* Tacit.

He dyed in the 56. year of his age; *Et in Deorum numerum relatus eſt*, he was made a god after death (which could not defend himſelf from death, from cruel murther) and that *Non ore modo decernentium, ſed & perſuaſione vulgi*, Not only by their voyce which decreed ſuch honour unto him, but alſo by perſwaſion of the common people.

* Sueton. Of this Ceremony of the Apotheoſis or deifying their Emperors, ſee Dr. *Hackwels* Apology of Gods providence. l. 4. Sect. 2.

A Comet ſhined then for ſeven dayes together, ariſing about the eleventh hour of the day, and it was believed by thoſe blind Heathen to be *Cæſars* ſoul, who had been a Comet of combuſtion to the world.

Horace lib. 1. Ode 12.

——*Micat inter omnes*
Julium ſidus, velut inter ignes
Luna minores.

Alſo upon his Image there is a Star ſet to the very crown of his head.

Percuſſorum autem fere neque triennio quiſquam amplius ſupervixit, neque ſua morte defunctus eſt. Sueton. *Bellares eſt* (*Inquit* Seneca) *mori ſua morte.*

Of theſe Murtherers there was not one that either ſurvived him above three years, or dyed a natural death.

A notable judgement of God upon the unnatural murderers of their Soveraign.

All ſtood condemned, and by one miſhap or other periſhed; ſome by ſhipwrack, others by battel, and ſome again ſhortned their own dayes with the very ſame dagger wherewith they had wounded *Cæſar*: *Caſſius* as *Plutarch* reporteth, and *Brutus* according to *Dion*.

Octavius

Octavius Auguſtus.

HE was ſtiled by the name of *Auguſtus*, *i. e.* worſhipful or ſacred, which they thought to be a name of reverence and Majeſty, becauſe all conſecrated and hallowed places were called *Loca Auguſta*. That Moneth which was by them called *Sextilis*, becauſe it was their ſixth Month, is called *Auguſtus* in honour of him, and things of greateſt ſplendor are called *Auguſtiſſima*. *Julius Cæſar* was his great Uncle, but his Father by adoption. He was called *Octavius* from his Father, and *Auguſtus* from his victory.

Vel. ab augurio, vel ab augendo dictus. Cujus vitam mira quadam diligentia et arte contexuit Suetonius: *quaſi in uno hoc libro voluerit ſingulare ſpecimen dare, in quod perfectionis faſtigium poſſet cura ſcribendi vitas eniti. Boecleri diſſertatio politica in Suetonii C. Octavium Cæſarem Auguſtum.* Although all the other lives excel with a wonderful concinnity; yet *Suetonius* in this ſeems to have exceeded himſelf.

A man moſt nobly deſcended; for

riches, honour, friends, Empire, fortunate victories, almoſt adored; for bodily good things, of comly ſtature, *Forma eximia, & per omnes ætatis gradus venuſtiſſima.* Of moſt amiable viſage, and that alſo majeſtical by his bright and ſhining eies, *Quibus etiam exiſtimari volebat ineſſe quiddam divini vigoris.* Wherein alſo (as he would have men believe) was ſeated a kind of Divine vigor: and he joyed much, if a man looking wiſhly upon him, held down his face, as it were againſt the brightneſs of the Sun; therefore a certain Soldier turning away his eies from beholding his face, and he demanding the reaſon why he did ſo, he anſwered; *Quia fulmen oculorum tuorum ferre non poſſum.*

Suetonius. *Oculorum acies clariſſimorum ſyderum modo vibrans. Corpore toto pulcher, ſed oculis magis.* Aurel. Vict.

Sueton.

Aurel. Vict.

Knolles in the Turkiſh Hiſt. ſaith of *Tamerlane*. In his eies ſate ſuch a rare majeſtie as a man could hardly endure to behold them without cloſing his own. p. 235.

His hair was ſomewhat yellow, and his body freckled with ſpots, which his flatterers would have the world believe were in form like ſtars.

Sueton. His ſhooes were underlaid ſomewhat with the higheſt, that he might ſeem taller than he was.

He was indeed ſomewhat low, nevertheleſs of a comely ſtature, five foot and nine inches, the juſt meaſure ſaith one of our late famous Queen *Elizabeth*, who as ſhe matched that Roman Emperor in happineſs, and duration of Reign, ſo did

Calciamentis altiuſculis utebatur, ut procerior quam erat videretur. Suetonius. Tertul. *Apol.* c. 34.

ſhe

she likewise in the stature of her body. Cities were called *Cæsareæ* in honour of him, so in honour of our Virgin Queen was there a Country called *Virginia*.

Augustus Imperii formator, ne dominum quidem dici se volebat. *Augustus* the founder of the Roman Empire (for his Father *Cæsar* was but *Metator* rather than *Imperator*, the chalker of it out, than the setter of it up) This great man would not be called Lord. Upon the same day that our Saviour was born, he forbad them by Edict to call him Lord, that all Lordship might be ascribed to him. The Princes which followed him (though good) refused not that title.

Orosius lib. 7. c. 2.

Orosius.

In his time our Saviour was born, *Imperante Augusto natus est Christus, Imperante Tiberio crucifixus.* He consulting with the Oracle of *Delphos* about his Successor, received this answer:

Hebræus puer injungit, Divum dominator,
Hacce domo fugere, et rursum me inferna subire.
Ergo tacens aris posthac discedito nostris.

Whereupon *Augustus* coming home, in the Capitol erected an Altar, and thereon in capital letters caused this inscription to be engraven, *Hæc est Ara Primogeniti Dei.*

He is mentioned in the Scripture, *Luke* 2. 1. There came an Edict from *Augustus Cæsar* that all the world should be taxed, *i. e.* all the Provinces subject to the Roman

Totus orbis) *ad verbum, Tota habitabilis, ita ut subandias Terra,* A Hyperbolical speech.

man Empire, for the Romans called themſelves Lords of the whole world.

Nulli Genti ſine juſtis & neceſſariis cauſis bellum intulit. Suetonius.

He made not war upon any people without juſt and neceſſary cauſes; his ſaying was, *That neither battel nor war was to be undertaken, unleſs there might be evidently ſeen more hope of gain than fear of damage.* He likened ſuch who ſought after ſmall commodities with great danger, unto thoſe that Angle with a golden hook, which if it be broken off, no draught of Fiſh whatſoever is able to make amends for the loſs. [That was prudent advice of *Henry* the fourth K. of *France*, to *Henry* the third his Brother, who would needs with thoſe ſmall forces they had, ſalley out of *Tours* upon the great Army of *Charles* Duke of *Mayen*; *Sire* (quoth he) *N'hazardons pas un double Henry, contre un Carolus, i. e.* Let us not venture a double Ducket for a ſingle penny.] He was ſo troubled and aſtoniſhed at the Relation of a Foil and overthrow of *Varus*, that for certain months together he let the hair of his head and beard grow ſtill, and wore it long, yea, and otherwhiles would run his head againſt the doors, crying out *Quintilius Varus*, deliver up my Legions again. *Suetonius.*

Bellum eſt Juſtum, quod neceſſarium eſt; & arma ſunt pia, quibus nulla niſi in armis relinquitur. ſpes. Livie Decad. 1. Lib. 9.

Aurel. Vict.

He deemed nothing leſs beſeeming a perfect and accompliſh'd Capt. than temerity, or raſhneſs: uſing this ſpeech, *Satis celeriter fieri, quicquid commodè geritur*, that is done ſoon enough, which is done well enough.

Sueton.

He

He was ſo exceedingly delighted with that proverbial ſaying, *Feſtina lente*, that he would not onely uſe it frequently in his daily Colloquies, but would inſert it often in his Epiſtles; admoniſhing by theſe two words, that to effect any enterpriſe, both the ſpeedineſſe of Induſtry, and the ſlowneſſe of diligence ſhould concur. Aul. Gel. l. 10. c. 11. Macrob. Saturn. lib. 6. Eraſ. Adag.

The City being not adorned according to the Majeſty of ſuch an Empire, and ſubject to the caſualties of Deluges and fires, he beautified and ſet out ſo, as juſtly he made his boaſt, that whereas he found it built of brick, he left it all of Marble. *Urbem lateritiam accepi, relinquo vobis marmoream.* Aurel. Vict. Sueton. Macrob.

Auguſto profluens & quæ Principem deceret, Eloquentia fuit. Tacit. He had a ready, fluent, and eloquent ſpeech, ſuch as well became a Prince. *Liberalibus ſtudiis, præſertim eloquentiæ in tantum incumbens, ut nullus ne in procinctu quidem laberetur dies, quin legeret, ſcriberet, declamaret.* Aurel. Vict.

Grotius in his Epiſtle to the Prince of *Condee* prefixed to *Martianus Capella*, ſaith, he eloquently compoſed *Sicilie*, Epigrams, *Achilles*, ſome Geographical things.

Seeing upon a time a number of Citizens clad all in black, aſſembled to hear a publick ſpeech, he with great indignation cryed out, Behold,

Romanos rerum Doimnos, gentemq; togatam.

The Romans, Lords of all the world, and long rob'd Nation.

He

Suetonius. He never recommended his ſons unto the people, but with this clauſe added thereto, *If they ſhall deſerve.*

Si meruerunt.

He gave charge to the Prætors of *Rome*, *Ne paterentur nomen ſuum obſolefieri*, Not to ſuffer his name to be worn threadbare.

He would never lye awake in the * dark without one ſitting by his bed ſide.

* *Niſi aliquo aſſidente, nunquam tenebris evigilavit.* Sueton. lib. 2. c. 5.

* *Macrobius* writes of him, that he carried ſuch an entire and fatherly affection to the Common-wealth, that he called it *Filiam ſuam*, his own Daughter; and therefore refuſed to be called *Dominus*, the Lord or Maſter of his Countrey, and would onely be called *Pater Patriæ*, the Father of his Country, becauſe he governed it not *per timorem, ſed per amorem*, not by fear, but by love.

* The Senate and people of *Rome* joyntly ſaluting him by the name of *Pater Patriæ*, he with tears ſtanding in his eies made anſwer unto them in theſe few words; Now that I have (mine honourable Lords) attained to the height of all my vowes and wiſhes, what remaineth elſe for me to crave of the immortal Gods, but that I may carry with me this univerſal conſent of yours unto my lives end?

Heraldus on *Tertullians* Apology, ſpeaking of *Auguſtus* and *Tiberius* his refuſing the title of Lord, ſaith; *Profecto exiſtimarim non ſine numine id iis in mentem veniſſe, ut vel hac ratione Chriſto omnium gentium vero Domino gloria ſua ſervaretur illibata.*

He would not lightly depart forth of the City, or any Town, nor enter into any place but in the evening, or by night, for diſquieting

diſquieting any perſon in doing him honour by way of dutiful attendance. *Suet.*

The beginning of friendſhip between him and *Cinna* was ſtrange; *Cinna* had conſpired againſt his life: After *Auguſtus* had diſcovered to him all his conſpiracy which he knew, he ſaid, "I have given "thee thy life twice; firſt as an enemy, "then a Rebel, and now I give thee the "Conſulſhip. Let us now be friends, and "henceforth ſtrive, whether I have with "a better faith given thee thy life, or thou "oweſt it to me. *Auguſtus* (ſaith *Sueton. in vita Aug.*) had not thenceforward in all *Rome* a greater friend than *Cinna* while he lived, and when he died, *Cinna* made him ſole heir. *vide Senec. l. 1. de clement. c. 9.*

This was duly obſerved, that how often ſoever he entred *Rome*, no puniſhment that day was inflicted upon any perſon.

Qui cum triſte aliquid ſtatuit, ſit triſtis & ipſe;
Cuiq; fere pœnam ſumere, pœna ſua eſt.

He was grieved himſelf when he pronounced a grievous ſentence, and he thought himſelf puniſhed when he puniſhed others.

Seneca ſaid of him, *Pœnas dat, dum pœnas exigit. lib.* 1. De Clem. cap. 10. *Damnatorum pœnas interdum acrius ferebat, quam qui plectebantur.* Senec. lib. *de Ira.*

Quiq; dolet, quoties cogitur eſſe ferox.

* *Rarus quidem ad recipiendas amicitias, ad retinendas conſtantiſſimus.*

* Aurelius. Victor.

He

His ſpecial friends were *Mecœnas, Agrippa, Virgil, Propertius.*

He would not ſuddenly entertain a league of friendſhip with any, but was a conſtant friend to thoſe he loved.

——— *amare*
Nec cito deſiſto, nec temere incipio.
Late ere I love, as long ere I leave.

He permitted the Jews to uſe their liberties.

Dion reporteth of him, that when he gave commandment to take tribute of the *Jews*, he would not ſuffer it to be taken from them on their Sabbath, but cauſed them to delay it till the next day.

Ne toro quidem cubuiſſe ajunt, niſi humili & modice inſtrato. Veſte non temere alia uſus eſt, quam domeſtica ab uxore & ſorore, filia, neptibuſque confecta. Sueton.

He ſlept but upon a low bed, and the ſame but meanly ſpread, and laid with coverlets. He ſeldome wore any apparel but huſwives cloath, made within the houſe by his Wife, his Siſter, and Daughter.

He termed ſumptuous garments, *Vexillum ſuperbiæ, nidumque luxuriæ*, the banner of pride, and neſt of lechery.

He was a man of very little meat, and fed for the moſt part on cheat bread and ſmall fiſhes.

He cauſed the bones of *Thallus* (who had opened a Letter committed to his truſt) to be broken, to the terror of ſuch untruſty attendants. *Sueton.*

Plutarch *in Apoph.*

By one ſpeech he did appeaſe a tumultuous Army. *Audite juvenes ſenem, quem juvenem ſenes audiverunt.* Ye young men hearken to me now old, whom old men have hearkened unto when young.

He

He had a special care to expresse his mind and meaning most plainly, and reprehended *Marcus Antonius* for writing such things, that men did rather wonder at than understand.

It was elegantly said of him, *I hate alike as departing from the mean, both Antiquaries, and affectors of novelties.* Suetonius. *Cacozelos & antiquarios, ut diverso genere vitiosos, pari fastidio sprevit.*

He did not so much observe Orthography, *i. e.* the form and precise rule of writing set down by Grammarians, but seemed to follow their opinion who think men should write according as they speak.

He could not away so much as with the Winter Sun-shine, and therefore at home he never walked up and down in the Air, without a broad-brim'd hat upon his head.

In general Salutations he admitted the very Commons, entertaining the suits and desires of all commers with so great humanity, as that he rebuked one of them merrily, because in reaching unto him a supplication, he did it so timorously, as if he had been reaching meat to an Elephant. *Putas te assem Elephanto dare?* Macrob. *lib. 2. Sat. c. 4. Quasi Elephanto stipem.* Sueton.

Augustus militem donis, populum annona, cunctos dulcedine otii pellexit. Tacit. lib. 1. Annal. He won the Soldiers with gifts, the people with provision of victuals, and all with the sweetnesse of rest and peace.

He said of *Tiberius*, *Miserum populum Romanum, qui sub tam lentis maxillis erit*, O unhappy people of *Rome*, that shall be under

under such a slow pair of jawes. By this Enigmatical speech he compared the state of the people of *Rome* unto the miserable case of one, whom some savage and cruel beast hath gotten between his teeth, not devouring and dispatching him at once, but there holdeth & cheweth him a long while in exceeding pain; alluding to the secret malice and dreaming nature withal of *Tiberius*.

To expresse the speedy expedition of a thing done hastily, he used this proverb, *Citius quam asparagi coquantur*. Quicker (would he say) than *Sparages* can be sodden.

Sparages soon sodden, see *Eras. Adag.*

Beholding certain rich strangers and forreigners at *Rome* carrying whelps of Dogs and Apes in their bosoms,& making much of them, he did ask, Whether women brought not forth children in their countries? Hereby giving a worthy and Princely admonition to them who do consume and waste upon Beasts, the natural affection and love due to men.

Plutarch in the life of *Pericles* saith no more than *Cæsar*, but *Eras.* in his Apothegmes took it to be meant of *Augustus*.

When he purposed never to do what he was requested, he was wont by way of Proverb to say, That he would do it, *ad calendas Græcas*, *i. e.* in our English Proverb, *at later Lammas*, never.

Suetonius. The Greeks had no Calends. See *Eras.* Adag.

He was so much afraid of Thunder and Lightning, that he ever carried about with him for a preservative remedy a Seales

* skin,

* skin; yea, and whensoever he suspected there would be any extraordinary storm or tempest, he would retire himself into a close secret room under ground, and vaulted above head.

* Or of a Sea-calf, which as *Pliny* writeth checketh all lightnings. *Tonitrua & fulgura paulo infirmius expaveſcebat, ut ſemper & ubique pellem vituli marini circumferret pro remedio, atque ad omnem majoris tempeſtatis ſuſpicionem, in abditum & concameratum locum ſe reciperet.* Sueton.

In his time Wars ceased, and Learning chiefly flourished. The Temple of *Janus* was then shut in *Rome*, peace being general through the whole world. *Aurel. Vict.* In the time of War the Temple was open.

Janum Quirini clauſit: Et ordinem
Rectum, & vaganti fræna licentiæ
Injecit, emovitque culpas,
Et veteres revocavit artes. *Horace lib. 4. Carminum.*

Our Saviour was born in the 42 year of his reign say *Epiphanius* and *Eusebius*, 41. say *Tertullian*, and *Iræneus*.

Receiving a challenge from *Anthony*, he returned him this answer, That if *Anthony* had a disposition to dye, or were weary of life, there were wayes enough else to death besides that. Thus the challenge was rejected, and yet his Honour untainted. He bid *Catullus* the railing Poet to supper, to shew that he had forgiven him.

Affectabat jocos, ſalvo tamen Majeſtatis pudoriſque reſpectu. He was very pleasant, and had both an excellent dexterity in breaking of Jests, and was very patient likewise in bearing of flouts. * *Probroſis in ſe dictis arriſit.* He made himself merry Macrob. Saturn. l. 2. Seneca *de Ira.* * *Vide Christ. Math. Theat. Hist. in Aug.* p. 55, 56. *Convitia ſi iraſcare, agnita videntur; ſpreta exoleſcunt.* Tacitus.

with

with reproachful ſpeeches touching himſelf, therein manifeſting his clemency, and alſo his wiſdom.

When he had by Proclamation promiſed a great ſum of money to him that ſhould bring in that famous Pirate *Corocota*, and put him in his power; He knowing the Emperors mild and temperate vein, took the boldneſſe to come himſelf, and told him that he was *Corocota* which came to ſubmit himſelf, and demanded the ſumm promiſed to him that ſhould bring him in; *Auguſtus* both pardoned him, and gave him the money. *Dion.*

I. 2. Saturn. cap. 4. Mat. 2. 16. For his Jewiſh devotion prohibited him to deal with ſwine, but not Religion, nor reaſon, nor nature could protect thoſe Innocents from ſlaughter.

Macrobius reporteth of him, that when he heard that at the commandment of *Herod*, all the children of *Syria* under two years old were ſlain, and that in the ſtirre his own ſon was alſo ſlain; *Melius eſt (inquit ille) Herodus porcum eſſe quam puerum.* I had rather (ſaith he) be *Herods* ſwine than his ſon.

Macrob. ib. *Quoniam pudebat adoleſcentem fateri quibus ipſe Cæſari diſpliciſſet, Cæſar permiſit ut ſermonem inverteret, & culpam in ipſum conferret.* Eraſ. Apotheg. Macrob. *ubi ſupra.*

He commanded *Herennius* a diſſolute young man to depart out of the Camp; and when he ſubmiſſively intreated him not to ſend him home, alledging that he could not tell what to ſay to his Father, he anſwered, *Dic me tibi diſpliciſſe*, ſay, that I diſpleaſed thee.

When

When *Pacuvius* did *petere ab eo congiarium*, and said, That it was commonly spoken among men, that he had given him a great deal of money, *Sed tu, inquit, noli credere.*

Galba, who had a crooked back pleading before him, and often saying, *Corrige in me si quid reprehendis*, If you finde any fault in me correct it; *Augustus* answered, *Ego te monere possum, corrigere non possum*, I can but admonish thee, I cannot correct thee. Macrob. Saturn.

Being entertained by one at a Banquet very meanly and sparingly, after all was finished he departed, and at his farewel only whispered this in his ear, *Non putabam me tibi tam familiarem*, I did not think we had been so familiar.

When one tilled the place where his Father was buried, he said, *Hoc vere est monumentum Patris colere.* Id. Ib.

He was cholerick by nature, but his patience in bearing of bitter Jests deserved much to be commended. A certain countryman came to *Rome*, who did much resemble him in outward feature, insomuch that all mens eyes were cast upon him, and *Augustus* hearing of it, caused him to be brought before him, asking him this question, Whether his Mother had ever been at *Rome*; the young man answered, No, but his Father had oftentimes.

This counsel was given him, that when the object and occasions of Choler were in his eye, he should not be moved before he had pronounced over the letters of the Alphabet.

He sitting between *Virgil* & *Horace*, being asked by one what he did? answered,

Sedeo inter ſuſpiria & lachrymas; per ſuſpiria intelligens Virgilium ſuſpirabundum, & per lachrymas Horatium lippientem.

Habenda eſt ad ſomnum culcitra, in qua ille cum tantum deberet, dormire potuit, Macr. *Sat.* l. 2. c. 4.

He hearing that a certain Gentleman of *Rome* (who was deeply indebted) did ſleep moſt ſecurely, deſired to buy the Bed whereupon he reſted; it ſeeming a matter of much marvel to him, that one fallen into ſo deep arrerages could take his reſt ſo well.

At tu cum fugiſti, nunquam poſt te reſpexeris?

When a Soldier bragged too much of a great ſear in his forehead, he asked him if he did not get it when he looked back as he fled.

Illius Ajax *utinam ne in ſpongiam incubuiſſet, haberemus profecto quod inſubidis illis opponeremus, qui principum feliciſſima ingenia ab humaniorum ortium ſtudio tanquam indigno, ſummo rerum publicarum damno avertunt.* Grotius Principi Condæo.

He wrote a Tragedy called *Ajax*, which afterwards (becauſe it diſpleaſed him) he blotted out with a ſponge. Therefore when *Lucius* a writer of Tragedies, asked him what his *Ajax* did? *Cæſar* very wittily anſwered, *In ſpongiam incubuit*, alluding to the argument of the Fable, in which *Ajax* when he knew what things he had ſpoken and done in his madneſs, lying upon his ſword kill'd himſelf. Beſides the pretty alluſion unto the fabulous Hiſtory of *Ajax*, *Torrentius* hath obſerved in the word *Spongia* a double ſignification, *viz.* a *Spunge* called *deletilis*, which Writers had at hand, either to wipe and waſh out what miſliked them, or to blur and blot the ſame; whereupon *Martial* ſaith of it, *Utiles hæc quoties ſcripta novare voles*: and alſo a *Sword*, which addeth the better grace unto the conceit, conſidering that *Ajax* fell upon his own ſword. Ha-

Having conquered his enemy, and returning home victorious, amongſt others that came to congratulate his happy conqueſt, there was one holding a Crow, which he had taught to ſay, *Ave Cæſar, Victor, Imperator*, God ſave the Emperor and Conqueror. He wondering to ſee the Bird ſo officious, gave a great ſum of money for him. His fellow workman to whom none of that liberality came, affirmed that he had at home another Crow for *Cæſar*, which he intreated he might bring; being brought, he expreſſed the words which he had learned, *Ave victor, Imperator Antoni.* The Emperor being nothing provoked therewith, thought it ſufficient to bid him divide the donative with the other: being ſaluted in like manner of a Pazret, he cauſed him to be bought. This example allured a poor Cobler to try whether he could teach a Crow to uſe the like ſalutation, but he being at great expences in vain, was wont often to ſay, *Opera & impenſa periit, All my pains and charge is loſt*; but at the laſt the Crow began to utter the ſame ſalutation, which *Auguſtus* once hearing as he paſſed by, he anſwered, *Satis domi ſalutatorum talium habeo*, I have ſuch ſaluters enough at home. *Macrob. Satur.*

The Crow remembred to adde that which he had heard his Maſter complaining ſay, *Opera & impenſa periit*, at which *Cæſar* laughed, and gave more for

him than any of the reſt that he had bought.

Perſius.

Quis expedivit Pſittaco ſuum χαῖρε?
Corvos quis olim concavum ſalutare,
Picaſque docuit verba noſtra conari?
Magiſter artis, ingenique largitor
Venter, negatas Artifex ſequi voces.

He wrote a bitter Satyre againſt a Poet, but he wiped his lips and replyed not, ſaying, *Periculoſum eſt in eum ſcribere qui poteſt proſcribere.*

Suetonius writeth of him, that he loved the expreſſions of the good will of his friends, and eſpecially ſuch as appeared by ſome Legacy given at their death; but yet whatſoever it was he would return it at one time or other to their children with advantage.

Non tamen vir tantus vitiis caruit; fuit enim paululum impatiens, levitur iracundus, occultè invidus, palam factioſus, dominandi ſupra quàm æſtimari poteſt avidiſſimus, ſtudioſiſſimus aleæ luſor. Aurel. Vict.

He wiſhed three things to his Son, the favour of *Pompey*, the boldneſs of *Alexander*, and his own fortune.

He was not without his vices, being very impatient, ſecretly envious, and openly factious, very deſirous to rule, and much given to dicing.

Quibuſdum non caruit vitiis, vitorum ſeverus ultor.
Emanuelis Theſauri Cæſares.

Though he was a man ſevere enough, yet he did not know the exceeding wantonneſs of *Julia* his own daughter, and her open and audacious boldneſs; but *Suetonius* ſeems to be of a contrary opinion, for he ſaith, that he was much aſhamed of her,

her, and that once he thought to put her to death. And when a freed woman of his named *Phœbe*, one that was privy to *Julia*'s lewdness, knit her own neck in a halter, and so ended her daies, he gave it out, *That he wisht with all his heart he had been* Phœbe's *Father.*

Lex Julia (which punisheth Adulterers with death) was not made by *Julius*, but by him.

Out of great indignation against his two Daughters, and *Postbumus Agrippa* his Grand-child, whereof the first two were * infamous, and the last otherwise unworthy, he would say, that they *were not his seed, but some impostume broken from him*, and he used this verse of them,

* *Heroum filii noxæ.*

O utinam aut cœlebs mansissem, aut prole carerem!

He was almost peerless in his Government, yet there are to be found so many misfortunes in his life, that a man cannot easily discern whether he was more miserable, or more happy.

Solinus.

Bonam mortem putabat celerem & inspera-tam, quæ nulla ægritudine pulsaret fores. So often as he heard of a man that had a quick passage with little sense of grief, he wished for himself and his such *Euthanasy*, such an easy death. He being at the point to die, thus addressed himself; called for his looking-glass, commanded to have his hair and beard combed, Et *malas labentes corrigi*, his riveled cheeks smoothed up; then asking his friends if he had acted his part well, *Cum ita responderint, vos omnes igitur, inquit Plaudite.*

Nam fere quæ-ties audisset, cito, aut nullo cruciatu de-functum quem-piam, sibi & su-is εὐθανασίαν si-milem (hoc enim & ver-bo uti solebat) precabatur. Suetonius. *Suetonius. Vita nostra si-cut fabula, nec refert quam diu, sed quam bene acta sit.*

l. 15. c. 7. The Climacterical year is fatal.

Aulus Gellius mentioneth, that he sent a letter unto his step-son to this effect, "Rejoice with me my Son, for I have "past over that deadly year & enemy to "old age, threescore and three, in which "number the sevenths and ninths do "concur.

He lived fifteen years after Christ was born, and dyed in his 76. year.

He was beloved of his people, for they erected a statue to *Musas* the Physitian who in a sickness recovered him, and placed it by *Æsculapius*: and the Senate much honoured him being dead, by consecrating Temples to him at *Rome*, and in other famous Cities, and all the people much lamented his death, using that speech, *Utinam aut non nasceretur, aut non moreretur*, Would he had never been born or never dyed.

Aurel. Vict.

Paterculus said of the Roman Empire after *Augustus* death, when there was such hope of enemies, fear of friends, expectation of trouble in all, *Tanta fuit unius viri Majestas, ut nec bonis, neque contra malos opus armis foret*: Such was the Majesty of one man, that his very presence took away all use of Arms.

Tyberius

Tyberius Cæsar.

LIVIA his Mother, whiles she went with child of him, among many and fundry experiments which she made, and signs that she observed (and all to know whether she should bring forth a man-child or no) took closely an Egg from under a Hen that was sitting, and kept it warm, sometime in her own, otherwhiles in her womans hands by turns one after another, so long until there was hatched a Cock-chicken with a notable comb upon the head. And when he was but a very babe, *Scribonius* the Astrologer gave out and warranted great matters of him, and namely, that he should one day reign as Monarch, but yet without the Royal Ensigns, for as yet the Sovereign power of

Tiberius dictus à fluvio Tibere, quod juxta Tiberim natus esset.

Suetonius.

the *Cæſars* was unknown.

He was of Perſonage tall, corpulent, big ſet and ſtrong, of ſtature above the ordinary, broad between the ſhoulders, and large breſted, fair of complexion, great goggle-ey'd, whereby he ſaw ſo clearly as is incredible to report. He uſed both hands alike; *his joints were ſo firm, that with his finger he was able to bore through a green and ſound table, with a fillop alſo to break the head of a good big boy; his ſpeech was exceeding ſlow, not without a certain wan on geſticulation and fumbling with his fingers.

Suetonius.

* *Nullius manus vel ad feriendum vel ad impellendum fortiores fuerunt, quum in digitis nervos videretur habuiſſe non venas; nam & carra venientia digito ſalutari repuliſſe dicitur, & fortiſſimos quoſque uno digito ſic afflixiſſe, ut quaſi ligni vel ferri obtuſioris ictu percuſſi dolerent. Multa duorum digitorum alliſione contrivit.* Trebel. Pollio. *de triginta Tyrannis in* Mario.

He refuſed the Empire a long time, putting on a moſt impudent and ſhameleſs mind, and ſeeming to rebuke his friends encouraging him thereto, as thoſe who knew not what a monſtrous and untaimed beaſt an Empire was. He alſo held the Senate in ſuſpence by ambiguous anſwers, and crafty delaies, when they beſought him to take it upon him, yea & humbly debaſed themſelves before his knees, inſomuch as ſome of them could endure him no longer, & one among the reſt in that tumult cry'd out aloud, Let him either do it at once, or elſe give over quite; and another openly to his face upbraided him in theſe words, *Cæteri, quod pollicentur tar-*

Tiberio ſuſpenſa ſemper, & obſcura verba. Tacitus.

dè

dè præstant, tu quod præstas tardè polliceris. "Whereas other men be slack in doing & "performing that which they have pro- "mised, thou art slack in promising that "which thou performest. In the end, as if he had been compelled, and complaining withall that there was imposed upon his shoulders a miserable and burdensome servitude, he took the Empire upon him.

Aut agat, aut desistat. Eras. Apophtheg. *Simile est Ciceronis istud de Epicureis 2. de fin. Cæteri (inquit) existimantur dicere melius quàm facere, hi mihi videntur facere melius quàm dicere.*

The cause of this holding off and delay that he made, was the fear of imminent dangers on every side, insomuch as he would often say, *Lupum se auribus tenere*, he held a Wolf by the ears.

Dicitur in eos qui ejusmodi negotio involvuntur, quod nequeant relinquere sit integrum, neque tolerari possit Eras. Adag. *Eras. in Apoph. & alii.*

He knowing excellent well how to conceal his own private passions, made himself known to be an excellent Doctor in the cunning Art of discovering other mens thoughts, by which he may be said to set the roof over the Roman Monarchy. Advertisements from *Parnassus* by *Bocalini*. Century 2. Advertis. 33. See more there.

He was very patient when any bad rumours or slanderous Libels were cast out, either of himself or those about him, and was wont to say (how wisely I determine not) *In civitate libera linguam mentemque liberas esse debere*, That in a free State men ought to have both tongue and thought free.

He taxed the indiscretion of the *Ilienses* comforting him long after the death

Sueton.

of

of his Son, with this anſwer, That he alſo was very ſorry for them, becauſe they had loſt that worthy Citizen *Hector*, one dead many hundred years before.

Sueton.

He was mild and gracious at the firſt, and ſeemed to be enclined to the good of the Common-wealth: when the Preſidents and Governors abroad gave him councel to burden the Provinces with heavy Tributes and Taxes; he wrote back unto them, *Boni Paſtoris eſt tondere pecus, non deglubere*, That it was the part of a good ſhepherd to ſhear his ſheep, and not to flea them.

Et Alexand. Magnus ſolitus erat dicere, ſe odiſſe olitorem qui herbas radicitus convelleret.

He held it good policy not to change his Officers often, leſt new ones ſucceeding ſhould oppreſs the people too much; whereas the old having means to enrich themſelves, would not ſo fleece them in the latter end as at the beginning, making haſt to do it, leſt they were removed before they could feather their neſts well. See *Montagues Acts and Monum. of the Church. c. 5. p. 37.*

Et ut parſimoniam publicam exemploquoque juvaret ſolennibus ipſe cœnis pridiana ſæpe at ſemeſa opſonia appoſuit, dimidiatumque aprum, affirmans omnia eadem habere quæ totum.

That by his own Example he might put forward the publick frugality, he himſelf at his ſolemn and feſtival ſuppers, cauſed oftentimes to be ſerved up to the Board viands dreſſed the day before, and thoſe half eaten, ſaying, That the ſide of a wild Boar had in it the ſame of the whole.

One

One there was who called him *Dominus*, that is, *Sir*, but he gave him warning not to name him any more by way of contumely. Another chanced to say, *His sacred business*; and a third again, That he went into the Senate, *Auctore se*, that is, *by his warrant* or *authority*. He caused them both to change those words, and for *auctore* to say *suasore*, that is, By his advice and councel; and instead of *sacred*, to put in *laborious* and *painful*.

Quotidiana oscula prohibuit edicto, item strenarum commercium. He forbad expresly by Edict the usual and daily kisses commonly given and taken, likewise the entercourse of New-years gifts to and fro.

Suetonius writeth of him, that he did *Jura omnibus ferè asylis adimere*, take away the priviledge of almost all their Sanctuaries, because he observed the licentious abuse of them.

At length he discovered those vices, which with much ado for a long time he had cloaked and concealed.

He was very cruel, covetous, and libidinous. He was wont to adorn his chambers with most lascivious pictures, *ut ita aspectu deficientes libidines excitaret. vide* Sueton. *in ejus vita.* He spent with *Flaccus Pomponius* and *L. Piso*, a whole night and two daies outright in nothing else but eating and drinking; giving the Province of *Syria* into the Government of the first, and conferring the Provostship of *Rome* on

Noctem continuumque biduum epulando potandoque consumpsit. Sueton.

on the other; profeſſing even in all his Letters, that they were *Jucundiſſimi, & omnium horarum amici*, his moſt pleaſant Companions, and friends at all Aſſaies. *Propter nimiam vini aviditatem*, for his exceſſive love of wine and hot waters, or becauſe he loved to drink wine hot, which is delicate, * he was for *Tiberius* named *Biberius*, for *Claudius*, *Caldius*, for *Nero*, *Mero*.

Suetonius. * *Elegans Paranomaſia.* So ſome played upon the name of *Epiphanes*, and called him *Epimanes*, or mad man. See *Junius* on 8. *Dan.* Others call the Duke of *Lorrain* the Duke *des Larrons.* **Le Theatre du monde. l.* 2.

*One gives this reaſon of his drunkenneſs, becauſe his Nurſe that gave him ſuck would drink exceedingly her ſelf, and nouriſhed him with ſops ſoaked in wine.

A Lombard, for drinking in his preſence three gallons of wine at one draught, and before he took his breath again, was dubbed Knight by him, and firnamed *Tricongius*, The three gallon Knight.

See after in *Caligula* and *Titus*. *Pliny l.* 14. of Natural Hiſt. Not the thrice gallant Knight. *Athenæus memorat de* Xenocrate, *illum ſcilicet uno hauſtu ſorpſiſſe vini congium.* Gaſſend. *de vita* Epicuri. *lib. 6. c. 6.*

It is reported, that in his time there was invented Glaſs of that temper, that it would abide the hammer, and be beaten in length or breadth like lead, and pliable to bend every way like paper; and that the Inventor hereof was put to death by him. See *Peacham's* Valley of varieties. *c.* 17.

He

He erected a new Office, *à voluptatibus*, for the deviſing of new pleaſures, wherein he placed *Priſcus* a Gentleman of *Rome*, and one who had been Cenſor.

He advanced *Sejanus* to the higheſt place of Authority, not ſo much for any good will, as to be his inſtrument for the accompliſhing his wicked purpoſes.

He put to death a Soldier one of his own Guard, for ſtealing a Peacock out of a Garden.

Theodorus Gadareus his Maſter obſerving his bloudy diſpoſition, called him, *Lutum ſanguine maceratum*, A lump of clay ſoaked in blood; theſe verſes were caſt out of him:

Faſtidit vinum, quia jam ſitit iſte cruorem;
Tam bibit hunc avidè, quàm bibit antè merum.
He loatheth wine, and now he after blood doth thirſt;
Drinks this as greedily as wine he drank at firſt.

He thought ſimple death ſo light a puniſhment, that when he heard that *Carnulius* one of the Priſoners had laid violent hands on himſelf, he cryed out, *Carnulius me evaſit*, *Carnulius* hath eſcaped my hands.

His ſaying was, *Oderint dum probent*, Let them hate me ſo long as they ſuffer my proceedings to paſs.

Nullus à pœna hominum ceſſavit dies, ne religioſus quidem ac ſacer.

There paſſed not a day over his head, no not ſo much as any feſtival and Religious Holy-day, without execution and puniſhment

Nero had an Officer about him (to wit *Petronius*) who was called *Arbiter Neronianæ libidinis*, Tacit. *Annal. l.* 16.

Latinis abſtracta pro concretis ſimpliciter poſita intendunt id quod dicitur; plus enim quam vel ſordidum deſignat, vel ſanguineum, eximie nimirum talem. Mentitur qui te vitioſum, Zoile, dixit. Non vitioſus homo es, Zoile, ſed vitium. Heinſ. Exercit. Sac.

Sueton.

Sueton.

puniſhment of ſome: many were accuſed and condemned, together with their Children and Wives. Straight commandment was given, that the near kinsfolks of ſuch perſons as were condemned to die ſhould not mourn and lament for them. No Informer and Promoter was diſcredited, but his Preſentment taken, and every crime and treſpaſs was accounted capital.

He ſaid to one that requeſted death rather than long impriſonment, *Nondum tecum redii in gratiam*, Thou art not yet reconciled to me that I ſhould ſhew thee ſuch favour. *Suetonius.*

Becauſe Virgins by a received cuſtom were not to be ſtrangled; he cauſed the Hangman firſt to deflour a Virgin, and then to ſtrangle her. *Tacitus* *Suetonius.*

Bæclerus in his political diſſertations, obſerves, that he had two inſtruments of his wickedneſs, by which he cloaked his vileſt actions.

1. *Sermonis artificium*, his ambiguous ſpeeches. 2. *Inanis quidam color juris*, as here in that example of the Virgins laſt mentioned.

Among other kind of torments he deviſed, that when men had drunk largely of ſtrong wine, their privy parts ſhould be faſt bound with Lute-ſtrings, that ſo for want of means to avoid their Urine, they might endure intollerable pain. *Suetonius.*

Fœlicem Priamum vocabat, quod ſuperſtes omnium ſuorum extitiſſet. He called *Priamus* Suetonius.

mus happy, in that he over-lived all his Sons and Daughters.

He feared Thunder exceedingly, and when the air or weather was any thing troubled, he ever carried a Chaplet or wreath of Lawrel about his neck, becauſe that (as *Pliny* reporteth) is never blaſted with Lightning.

See the like in *Auguſtus* his life.

He loved liberal Sciences moſt affectionately, he would do things better of a ſudden, *extempore*, than upon ſtudy and premeditation, *Repentivis reſponſionibus, aut conſiliis melior, quàm meditatis.*

Ingenio ad repentina longè ceriore. Aurel. Vict.

He was much addicted to Aſtrological predictions, and ſuch curious Arts, ſo that the greater part of thoſe things which he executed in all his life time was ordered thereby; he gave the more credit to Divination, becauſe in certain things he had found the conjectures correſpondent to truth.

He wrote a moſt eloquent compleint of the death of *Julius Cæsar.* *Scribit Plutarchus in Apophthegmatis, Auguſtum dicere ſolitum, ſe Romani Imperii ſucceſſorem eum eſſe relicturum, qui nunquam bis de eadem re conſultaſſet; Tiberium ſignificare volebat.* Joſephus lib. 18. of the Antiquity of the Jews. c. 8.

His uſual Companions were Magicians and Sooth-ſayers. The principal of theſe was *Thraſyllus*; whom *Tiberius* intending on a time, to thruſt down from a Cliff as they walked together, in that he had failed in a former prediction; & perceiving by his looks that he was troubled in mind, demanded the cauſe. Who replyed, that by his Art he foreſaw ſome hardly to be avoided

voided danger to be neer him: whereat *Tiberius* amazed, altered his purpoſe.

Tu quoque Galba deguſtabis imperium. Tacit. l. 4. Annal.

He ſeeing *Galba* one day coming towards him, ſpake thus of him to certain of his familiars, Behold the man that ſhall be one day honoured with the Roman Empire.

Lipſius in his Commentaries on the third book of *Tacitus*, Annal. treats largely of this *Lex Papia.*

He made a Law called *Lex Papia*, by which he forbad ſuch men as were paſt ſixty, or women paſt fifty to marry, as thinking them inſufficient for generation; to which *Lactantius* ſeems to allude, thus jeſting at the Heathen touching their great god *Jupiter*; How cometh it to paſs that in your Poets, ſalacious *Jupiter* begets no more children? is he paſt ſixty, and reſtrained by the *Papian* Law?

Certè Juliam legem Papia fuiſſe auctam atque extenſam ſatis conſtat. Sed quid ſit adjectum, non ita conſtat Heraldi Commentarius. in Ap loget. Tertul.

Vide Tacit. *l.* 16. *Annal.* 6. 12.

Many of the Roman *Cæſars* have been tranſported with ſelf-admiration, they have ſhared the Months of the year among them; April muſt be *Neroneus*, May *Claudius*, *Domitian* will have October, November is for *Tiberius*, by the ſame token that when it was tendered to him, he askt the Senate wittily (as *Xiphiline* reports it) *What they would do when they ſhould have more than twelve* Cæſars?

It is called the Sea of *Tiberias*, *John* 6. 1. from a City on the bank of it, of that name, built by *Herod*, in honour of *Tiberius*

rius Cæsar, as *Josephus* writeth in the 18. Book of his Jewish Antiquities.

Livie and *Ovid* dyed in the fourth year of *Tiberius*. *Eusebius*

Pilate by Letters signified unto him the Miracles of our Saviour Christ, his Resurrection, and that he was supposed of many to bee God. The Romans had a Law, forbidding any Emperor to consecrate or set up any god which was not first approved by the Senate; for *Tiberius Cæsar* hearing of Christs fame, by vertue of that Law moved the Senate to promulgate and relate Christ among the number of their gods, who rejected him because he would be God alone, or because contrary to the Law of the Romans he was consecrated for God, before the Senate of *Rome* had so declared and approved him; whose folly *Tertullian* thus scoffeth; * *Apud vos de humano arbitrio divinitas pensitatur, nisi homini Deus placuerit, Deus non erit, homo jam Deo propitius esse debebit.* God should be God if man would let him.

The word Christians was first known to the world in his reign as *Tertullian* witnesseth in his Apology *Tiberius ergo, cujus tempore nomen Christianum in seculum introjvit.*

*In Apologet. They refused to doit, saith *Eusebius. l. 2. Hist. Eccles. c. 2.* that the wisedome and Divine power of God in the Doctrine of salvation might not need the allowance and commendation of men.

Josephus a Jew, and an enemy to Christ, in his 8. Book of Antiquities, *c.* 4. speaks the same things of Christ that *Matthew* doth; that he was a most worthy man, if it be lawful to call him a man (said he,) that he wrought many Miracles, & that he rose from the dead. *Tacitus* and *Suetonius* speak of his Miracles, *Tacitus l.* 15. *Annal. c.*

Chriſtus Tiberio imperante, per Procuratorem Pontium Pilatum ſupplicio affectus eras.

10. affirms that he was crucified under *Pilate* in the time of *Tiberius*, & that *Teberius* would have put him in the number of his gods. *Plutar. De interitu Orac.* reports, that under the Reign of *Tiberius* all the Oracles of the world ceaſed, of which the Poets bear witneſs, —— *ceſſant oracula Delphis. Juv. Sat. 6.*

Plutarch alſo in the ſame book reports, that in the later years of the reign of *Tiberius*, a ſtrange voice and exceeding horrible clamours, with hideous cries, ſcreetches and howlings were heard by many in the Grecian Sea, complaining that the great god *Pan* was now departed. And this was brought before the Emperor, who marvelled greatly thereat, and could not by all his Diviners and Southſayers whom he called to that conſultation, be able to gather out any reaſonable meaning of this wonderful accident: but Chriſtians may perſwade themſelves, that by the death of their great god *Pan* (which ſignifies all) was imported the utter overthrow of all wicked ſpirits. *John* 12.13.

Our Lord was crucified in the 15. year of his reign, ſay * *Tertullian* and **Lactantius*.

**Lib. adverſus Judæos.*

** Lib. 4. de vera ſapientia c. 10.*

But *Luke* the Evangeliſt, 3. *c.* 1. *v.* maketh his Baptiſm to fall in the 15. year of *Tiberius* his reign. So then his Paſſion muſt be in the 18. or 19. for three years he preached ſalvation. *Jerome* and *Euſebius*.

Vide Voſſium de tempore. Dominicæ paſſionis. Sect. 3.

The fear of loſing his Office under *Tiberius*

rius Cæsar, (whose Deputy he was over the Province of *Judæa*,) made *Pilate* condemn Christ, *John* 19. 12, 13. but not long after, he lost his Deputy-ship and *Cæsars* favour, and fled to *Vienna*, where living in banishment he killed himself; *Euseb. Hist. l.2.c.7.*

John Baptist also suffered in his time.

*Matth.*22.21. Our Saviour saith, *Render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsars.*

Romani Cæsares imaginem suam imprimebant monetæ tam aureæ quam argenteæ Drusius.

The money declared the subjection of their Nation; as if he should have said, If you think it absurd to pay Tribute, be not subject to the Roman Empire; but the money declareth that *Cæsar* reigneth over you, & your own secret allowance declareth that the liberty which you pretend, is lost and taken away. *Jerome* on the place doth well observe, that the name of *Cæsar* is not proper, but appellative, because from the first Emperor *Julius Cæsar* all the rest were so called. Yet saith *Gerhard* in his *Harmony*, Christ properly understands *Tiberius* who then ruled, whose Image the money did bear; to that wicked Emperor Tribute was due; so that charge 1 *Tim.*2.2. was given by *Paul*, even then when *Cæsar* was a persecutor of the Christian Religion.

Austin tells us, He that gave Soveraignty to *Augustus*, gave it also to *Nero*; he that gave it to the *Vespatians* Father and Son, sweetest Emperors, gave it also to *Domitian* that bloody monster, *De civit. Dei. l.*5. *c.*21.

Tiberius approved of the Chriſtians Opinions, and theatned Death to them which accuſed them: This came to paſs (ſaith * *Euſebius*) by Divine providence, that the Doctrine of the Goſpel having no rub at the firſt, might run over the whole world.

He made *Capreæ* by his cruelty and luſts, but infamous and unhappy: Who withdrawing thither from the affairs of the Common wealth, becauſe the Iſland was unacceſſible on all ſides, by reaſon of the upright Clifts, except only at one place, no man being ſuffered to land, but upon eſpecial admittance, hence ſent his mandates of death. In the mean-time making it a very ſtew of incredible beaſtlineſs. Inſomuch that *Capreæ* was ſtiled the Iſland of ſecret luſts, and he *Capreneus*, Sandys Travels. *l.* 4. *p.* 197. *Capræis marceſcens Romæ aderat ferro, ſi non conſilio. Emanuelis Theſauri Cæſares.*

Dion writes, that a Phœnix was ſeen before the laſt year of *Tiberius*, which bird is an Emblem of the Reſurrection, and ſignifieth that at that time Chriſt roſe from the dead, and that the Goſpel was then ſpread abroad, which affirmeth that the Dead ſhall riſe again. *Carion. Chron.*

He dyed in the 78. year of his age, ſay *Suetonius*, *Tacitus*, and *Aurel. Vict.* 83. ſaith *Eutropius*. It was thought he was poyſoned.

He raigned 23 years, ſay *Eutropius*, *Suetonius*, *Oroſius*. 24 ſaith *Aurel. Vict.* 22 years, 7 months, and 20 dayes, *Tertull.*

* l. 2. Eccleſ. Hiſt. c. 2. He with-held a Legacy from the people of *Rome*, which his predeceſſor *Auguſtus* had lately given; and perceiving a fellow round a dead Corpſe in the ear, we would needs know wherefore he did ſo, the fellow replyed, that he wiſhed the departed ſoul to ſignifie to *Auguſtus*, the Commons of *Rome* were yet unpaid: for this bitter jeſt the Emperor cauſed him forthwith to be ſlain, & carry the news himſelf.

22 years, *Clem. Alexand.* 22 years, 7 months, and so many dayes, saith *Dion*, 22 years and six months, *Josephus*.

He raigned 22 years and 7 moneths; but the reason of the different computation, why some give unto him but 22 years, some 24, some but 23 is, because some count only the full years, some the moneths of his first and last year for whole years, some put the odde months together, and make one year of them.

He raigned after our Saviours Passion 4 years, 11 months, and 18 dayes.

The people joyed so much at his death, that running up and down at the first tidings thereof, some cryed out in this note, *Tiberium in Tiberim*, Let *Tiberius* be cast into *Tiber*; some offered sacrifices when they heard of it, and one meeting with his Master in some publick place, told him in the Hebrew Tongue, The Lion was dead.

Doctor *Willet* on the Rom. 22 years, 11 months, 14 days, saith *Euseb.* as Doctor *Willet* sheweth in his *Hexapla* on *Dan.* where the account differs from this certain months, because he followeth *Euseb.* computation there.

Caius

Caius Caligula.

SOme say this name of *Caligula* was given him, for a certain kind of shooe called *Caliga*, used among men of warr, and worn by him; or he got it by occasion of a merry word taken up in the Camp, because he was brought up there in the habit of an ordinary and common soldier among the rest.

Suetonius. *Quia natus in exercitu fuerat, cognomentum calceamenti militaris, i. e. Caligulæ fortitus est.*

Cajus, cognomen Caligæ *cui castra dederunt.* Ausonius.

Aurel. Vict.

He carried himself well before he was Emperor, so that it was said of him, *Nec servum meliorem ullum, nec deteriorem Dominum fuisse.* There was never a better servant, and a worse Master.

He was very tall of stature, pale and wan-coloured, of body somewhat gross and

and unfashionable, his eies sunk in his head, and his Temples were hollow, his forehead was broad, the hair of his head grew thin, in all parts else he was hairy and shagged, and therefore it was a capital offence, either to look upon him as he passed by, from an higher place, or once but to name a * Goat upon any occasion whatsoever. His face and visage being naturally stern and grim, he made of purpose more crabbed and hideous, composing and dressing it in a looking-glass, all manner of waies to seem more terrible, and to strike greater fear. Being clad oftentimes with a cloak of needle-work, and embroidered with divers colours, and the same set out with precious stones; in a coat also with long sleeves, and wearing bracelets withall, he would come abroad into the City.

* *Suetonius.* It was held *crimen læsæ Majestatis*, against his Imperial person. Speed. *Vultus horridus.* Sueton. *Torserat per omnia quæ in rerum natura tristissima sunt, fidiculis, Eculeo, igne, vultu suo.* Seneca. *lib.* 3. *de Ira.* He said that he did approve of nothing so much in his nature as his immodesty.

In omnia fuit ei pro ratione impetus, sive ad cupiendum aliquid ingens et incredibile, se incitasset, sive ad patranda immania exarsisset. Boecleri *Dissertatio Polit. in Calig.*

On a time esteeming it a thing correspondent to his greatness who was Emperor, to exact that superiority on the Sea, which was answerable to his Soveraignty on the Land, being to cross the Sea between *Puteoli* a City in *Campania*, and *Misenum* another maritime town, he caused a Bridge to be built betwixt one Cape of the Sea unto another, for the space of three miles and more, on which he com-

Sueton. *Novum & inauditum spectaculi genus.*

manded himſelf to be drawn in a Chariot, as if it were anſwerable to his Dignity.

Some are of opinion that he invented ſuch a kind of Bridge in emulation of *Xerxes*, who not without the wonder of the world, made a Bridge of planks over *Helleſpont* an arm of the Sea, ſomewhat narrower than this: Others, that by a bruit blazed abroad of ſome huge and monſtrous piece of work, he might terrifie *Germany* and *Britain*, upon which Countries he meant to make war. See *Sandys* Travels l. 4. p. 214.

He maintained his reputation with his Grand-father *Tiberius*, by no means but this; he ſhadowed his cruel mind with ſubtil modeſty, and ſhewed not diſcontent either for the condemnation of his Mother, or the baniſhment of his Brethren, *Pari habitu ſemper cum Tiberio, haud multum diſtantibus verbis*, He did imitate him in his apparel, in his words, in all things as near as poſſibly he could.

Tacit. lib. 6. Annal.

He ſucceeded *Tiberius* in the Empire, but in cruelty far exceeded him. Thus far forth as of a Prince (ſaith *Suetonius*,) relate we muſt as of a Monſter.

Sueton. Aurel. Vict.

He uſurped the name of god, commanding his ſubjects to dignifie him with more than human honours; and aſcending the Capitol, which among all the Temples in *Rome* is moſt religiouſly honoured, he was

In his Temple ſtood an Idol of fine gold, of himſelf, which was daily cloathed and adorned with the like garments which he then wore, *Cuffe* of Affectation.

ſo

ſo bold as to ſalute *Jupiter*, and to call him brother.

——— *Divumque ſibi poſcebat honores.*

He ſent *Petronius* with an Army to *Jeruſalem*, commanding him to ſet his ſtatue in the Temple, and if the Jews refuſed to receive it, that thoſe who withſtood him he ſhould put to the ſword, and lead the reſt captive; but partly by *Petronius* his prudence, and through *Ariſtobulus* his interceſſion with him, and King *Agrippa's* with *Caligula*, it was hindered. Joſeph. *l.* 18. *Antiq. c.* 11. *& 2. de bello Judaic. c.* 9.

The like is in the 21. *lib.* of *Tacitus*, where he thus writeth of the Jews, *Sub Tiberio quies, deinde juſſi a Caio Cæſare effigiem ejus in Templo locare, arma potius ſumpſere; quem motum mors* Cæſaris *diremit.*

He gave it out openly, that his own Mother was begotten by Inceſt which *Auguſtus* committed with his own daughter *Julia.* *Suetonius.*

He cauſed his Brother *Tiberius* to be ſlain, and reſerved his Uncle *Claudius* (who was his Succeſſor in the Empire) for nothing elſe, but to make him his laughing-ſtock. *Suetonius.*

Many of honorable rank were by him put to death, and ſawed aſunder in the midſt, becauſe they had no good opinion of his ſhews, or had not ſworn by his *Genius.*

An

Per Genium Principis Romanos jurare ſolitos, teſtes ſunt Juriſconſulti noſtri, quemadmodum & per ſalutem Principis, & per Principis venerationem. Schildius *in* Calig. Apologet. c. 28

An ordinary thing it was at *Rome* to ſwear by the *Genius*, as alſo by the Fortune, and the health of their Emperors. And what a devout Oath was this, *Per Genium*, that is, the ſpirit or ſuperintendent Angel of the Prince? which I take to be as much as his own good ſelf, as appeareth by *Tertullian*, *Citius apud vos per omnes Deos, quam per Genium principis, pejeratur*, Doct. *Holland* in Annotat. in *Sueton.* *Dio* (as *Heraldus* upon *Tertullians* Apologie obſerves) ſaith, that *Auguſtus* a moſt wiſe and moderate Prince, not only pardoned, but alſo ſuppreſſed this kind of Oath.

Suetonius.

He forced Parents to be preſent at the execution of their own Children.

And when one Father excuſed himſelf by reaſon of ſickneſs, he ſent a Litter for him. Another of them immediately after the heavy ſpectacle of his Son put to death, he invited to his own board, made him great cheer, and by all manner of courteſie provoked him to jocondneſs & mirth.

Suetonius.

When his Grand-mother *Antonia* ſeemed to give him ſome admonition, *Memento, ait, omnia mihi in omnes licere.*

When he had at one time condemned a ſort of Frenchmen and Greeks together, he made his boaſt, That he had ſubdued *Gallo-Græcia*, a Nation mixt of French and Greeks.

After he had well drunk and eaten, he took pleaſure to caſt his friends into the Sea

Sea, from on high, from a Bridge which he built at *Puteoli* before mentioned, and cauſed many to be drowned which ſought to ſave them. *Dion. lib.* 50. of his Hiſt. *Sueronius* in *Calig. cap.* 32.

He would not permit any to ſuffer death, but after many ſtrokes given, and thoſe very ſoftly. His Command being generally and commonly known, *Ita feri ut ſe mori ſentiat*, Strike ſo, that they may feel themſelves dying, and endure the pains of an enduring death.

Ita in bello civili Mariano, Marius quidam particulatim amputatus, diu vivere vel potius diu mori coactus eſt, ut inquit eleganter Auguſtin. *lib.* 3. *de civ. Dei.* Schildius.

He executed on a time one whom he had not appointed to die, by error only and miſtaking his name, but it makes no matter, quoth he, for even he alſo hath deſerved death.

A certain Citizen of *Prætors* degree, deſired oftentimes from the retiring place where he was at *Anticyra* (into which Iſle he went for his healths ſake) to have his Licence continued; but he gave order he ſhould be killed outright, adding theſe words therewith, That blood-letting was neceſſary for him who in ſo long time had found no good by *Hellebore*, that is, by purging.

Hellebore that groweth in the Iſle *Anticyra*, is of moſt effectual operation; the root is that whereof is made our ſneeſing powder, it purgeth extremely by vomit; thereupon ariſeth the Proverb, *Naviget Anticyram*, that is, *Let him ſail to Anticyra*; applyed to one that is melancholick in the higheſt degree, and little better than mad. See *Pliny*'s natural Hiſt. l. c. 342.

Being highly diſpleaſed upon a time with the multitude, for favouring the contrary faction to his, would God (quoth

At tu (inquit) unam cervicem habes, nos vero manus multas.

(quoth he) that the people of *Rome* had but one neck, meaning to chop them off at one blow; *Vox carnifice quàm Imperatore dignior. Xiphil.* A ſpeech fitter for an Hangman than an Emperor: Over whom, being kild by *Chæreas*, the people of *Rome* afterward inſulted.

Queri de conditione temporum ſuorum ſolebat, quod nullis calamitatibus publicis inſignirentur. Sueton.

He was wont openly to complain of the unhappy condition of the time wherein he lived, as not renowned by any publick calamities; that his Government was like to be forgotten by the calm and proſperous current of all things, and therefore he would often wiſh for the overthrow of his Armies, Famine, Peſtilence, Fire, Earthquakes, and the like.

Suetonius.

Nonnunquam horreis præcluſis populo famem indixit. He proclaimed a famine without ſcarcity.

While he was at his recreations and diſports, he practiſed the ſame cruelty both in word and deed; oftentimes as he ſate at dinner, ſome were examined upon the Rack in his preſence, and others had their heads ſtruck off.

His ſaying was, *Oderint dum metuant, Let them hate me, ſo they fear me.*

Being one day very free at a great feaſt, he ſuddenly brake forth into a great laughter, and the Conſuls who were next him demanding whereat he laughed ſo, his anſwer was, *Quid niſi uno meo nutu jugulari utrumque veſtrum ſtatim poſſe?* At what elſe (quoth he) but this, that with one nod of

of my head I can have both your throats cut immediately?

As oft as he kiſſed the neck of his Wife or Concubine, he would commonly adde, *Tam bona cervix, ſimulac juſſero, demetur.* As fair and lovely a neck as this is, off it ſhall go if I do but ſpeak the word. Sueton *Diriſſimæ immanitatis dictum; ſed in Hiſtoria Turcarum factum legimus hoc etiam dicto crudelius.* Caſaub. in Calig. *Vide plura ibid.*

He complained of the iniquity of the time, that one doubting to be poyſoned of him did take counterpoyſon, or a remedy againſt it; what ſayes he, *Antidotum adverſus Cæſarem?* Is there any Antidote againſt *Cæſar?*

His cruelty (as *Dion* ſaith) was not imputed to his Father or Mother, but to his Nurſe, which was a moſt cruel woman her ſelf, and uſed to rub her breaſt nipple with blood, cauſing him to ſuck it; which he practiſed alſo afterwards, for he did not only delight in the committing of many Murders, but through inſatiable deſire of blood, would with his tongue ſuck and lick off the blood that ſtuck upon his ſword or dagger.

Videtur Natura edidiſſe, (ſaith Seneca) *ut oſtenderet quid ſumma vitia in ſumma fortuna poſſent.* Nature ſeemed to have brought him forth, to ſhew what effects the greateſt vice joyned with the greateſt fortune could produce. De Conſ. ad Helviam. c. 9.

And it may juſtly be verified of his times, what *Senecca* ſaith in another place, *Res humanas ſub illo in eum ſtatum decidiſſe, ut inter miſericordiæ opera haberetur occidi.* Under In his Preface to his fourth book of natural queſtions.

der him things were brought to that paſs, as it was reckoned amongſt the works of mercy to be ſlain.

Aurel. Vict. *De quo neſcio an decuerit memoriæ prodi, niſi forte quia juvat de Principibus noſſe omnia, ut improbi ſaltem famæ metu talia declinent.*

Concerning whom (ſaith *Aurel. Victor.*) I know not whether it ſhall be meet to have recorded any thing, but that peradventure it is expedient to know all things of Princes, that wicked men at leaſt with fear of the report may decline ſuch things.

He was very expert in the Greek, and vulgar Roman Tongues. He was alſo of a fluent ſpeech, and if he had been to plead and declaim againſt one, when he was angry once, he had both words and ſentences at will: when he was about to make an Oration, his manner was to threaten in theſe terms, viz. *That he would draw forth and let drive at his adverſary, the keen weapon and dart of his night-ſtudy by Candle-light.*

Peroraturus ſtricturum ſe lucubrationis ſuæ telum minabatur. Sueton.

He would have removed the writings of *Virgil* and *Livie* out of all Libraries; he ſaid, *Virgil* was a man of no wit, and very mean learning, and taxed *Livie* of verboſity, and negligence in penning his Hiſtory.

Minutiſſimis ſententiis rerum fregit pondera, ſaith *Quintilian* of *Seneca.* Sueton.

He ſaid, *Seneca*'s works were *Arena ſine calce*, Sand without Lime, becauſe he often ſpoke ſhort ſentences, having no connextion amongſt themſelves.

Nepotinis ſumptibus omnium prodigorum ingenia ſuperavit, In riotous & waſtful expences

pences he exceeded the wits and inventions of all the prodigal ſpend-thrifts that ever were, inventing moſt monſtrous kinds of meats, and making ſumptuous Feaſts. He would drink off moſt precious and coſtly Pearls diſſolved in Vinegar. *Luxus fuit portentoſi, ut qui etiam panes deauratos habuerit.* He ſpent in one year two Millions, and 700000 of *Seſtertiums.* He would ſet before his Gueſts loaves of Bread and other viands all of * Gold, ſaying commonly withall, *Aut frugi hominem eſſe oportere, aut Cæſarem,* That a man muſt either be frugall, or elſe *Cæſar.*

Commentus portentoſiſſima genera ciborum atque cœnarum. Sueton.

* Which had a glorious ſight to look on, yet there was nothing for the contentation of Nature: ſo the Papiſts ſet their glittering ſervice of Hebrew, Greek, and Latine before the people, a goodly ſhew to gaze on, and wonder at. Biſh. *Jewel. Cæl. Rhodig.* Suetonius.

He held the wills of great men as void and of no effect, in caſe any perſon would come forth and ſay, That they purpoſed and intended at their death to make *Cæſar* their Heir; he declared alſo by an Edict, that he would receive New-years gifts, & ſo he ſtood the firſt day of *January* in the entry of his houſe, ready to take what pieces of money ſoever came, which the multitude of all ſects and degrees, with full hands and boſoms powred out before him; nay, he took ſuch delight in handling of money, that oftentimes he would both walk bare-footed up and down, yea, and wallow

Hic non toto vertente anno ſex millia ſeptingenta & quinquaginta myriadum aureorum prodegit. Cæl. Rhod. *lect. Antiq. l.* 20. c. 14.

Contrectandæ pecuniæ cupidine incenſus. Sæpe ſuper immenſos aureorum acervos patentiſſimo diffuſos loco, & nudis pedibus ſpatiatus, & toto corpore aliquandiu volutatus eſt. Sueton.

wallow alſo a good while with his whole body upon huge heaps of coined pieces of gold ſpread here and there in a moſt large open place.

There were in his ſecret Cabinet found two Books, bearing divers titles. The one had for the inſcription, *Gladius*, the Sword; the other, *Pugio*, i.e. the Dagger, or Rapier; They contained both of them the marks and names of ſuch as were appointed unto death. There was found beſides, a big cheſt full of divers poiſons, which ſoon after being by *Claudius* drowned in the Sea, infected and poiſoned the ſame, and many Fiſhes were killed therewith, which the Tide caſt into the next ſhores.

Theſe things were found after his death.

Pugio à pungendo, quia punctim potius quam cæſim vulnerat. Sueton.

He ſet light by the gods, and threatned the Aire if it rained upon his Game-players, *Quanta dementia fuit? putavit aut ſibi noceri ne a Jove quidem poſſe, aut ſe nocere Jovi poſſe. Senec. de Ira. lib. 1. cap. 16.* How great madneſs was it to think that either *Jupiter* could not hurt him, or that himſelf could hurt *Jupiter*? Yet notwithſtanding at the leaſt thunder and lightning he uſed to wink cloſe with both eyes, to enwrap alſo and cover his whole head; but if the ſame were greater and ſomewhat extraordinary, he would ſtart out of his Bed, and hide himſelf under the Bed-ſted.

See before in the life of *Auguſtus* and *Tiberius*.

Dion reporteth of two, that when the Emperor was ſick, thinking to get much as a reward for their great love to the Emperor;

peror, vowed, that on condition he might live, they themſelves would dye to excuſe him; he recovering, afterward took them at their word, and put them to death, leſt they ſhould break their vow, and prove perjured perſons.

Having recalled one from exile which had been long baniſhed, he demanded of him, What he was wont to do there? Who made anſwer thus by way of flattery, *I prayed* (quoth he) *to the gods alwayes, that Tiberius* (as now it is come to paſs) *might periſh, and you become Emperor.* Hereupon *Caligula* thinking that thoſe whom he had baniſhed prayed likewiſe for his death, ſent about into the Iſlands to kill them every one. *Sueton.*

In taking the review of Goals, & Priſoners therein, as they were ſorted to their offences, he without once looking upon the title and cauſe of their impriſonment, ſtanding only within a Gallery; commanded that all in the midſt, *à calvo ad calvum*, that is, from one bald pate to another, ſhould be led forth to execution. *Sueton.*

He was murthered at laſt himſelf, who had put ſo many to death. He lived 29 years ſaith *Suetonius*, 39 *Eutropius*. He reigned three years, ten months, & eight dayes, ſay *Suetonius* and *Eutropius*; four years ſay *Clemens*, *Tacitus*, and *Sextus Aurel.* four years, ten months, and eight dayes, ſaith the computation of his years. Three years, ten moneths, and eightreen dayes, ſaith *Euſeb.* Doctor *Willet* on the Epiſt. to the Rom.

Only 28 years 4 moneths, and 24 dayes, *Caſaubon.* There is a great difference among Chronographers, about

Beda; three years, nine moneths, 28 dayes, ſaith *Dion*; three years, eight moneths, and thirteen dayes, ſaith *Tertullian*; three years, ſix moneths, *Ioſephus*; three years, nine moneths, 22 dayes, ſaith *Epiphanius*: but the whole time of his reign was three years, ten moneths, and eight dayes. They which give to him full four years, count the odde moneths and dayes for a whole year.

Valerius Aſiaticus, who had been Conſul, came forth among the people, who were in an uproar becauſe of the rumors of the Emperors death, and ſuppoſing it a ſtrange matter that no man knew who had ſlain the Emperor, whilſt every one enquired who it was that had done the deed, *O*, ſaith he, *would it had been I that had done it!*

Joſeph. l. 19. of the Antiq. of the Jews c. 1.

Utinam ego eum interfeciſſem Xiphilin.

His death concerned the ſecurity of the Lawes, and the ſafety of all men; and had he not been ſpeedily cut off, *Our Nation* (ſaith *Joſephus*) *almoſt had been utterly exterminated.*

His monies were all melted by the decree of the Senate; as King *Richard* the thirds Cognizance the white Bore was torn from every ſigne, that his Monument might periſh. *Speed.*

Claudius

Claudius Cæsar.

AFter the death of *Caligula*, certain Soldiers in a hurry going to plunder the Pallace, one perceiving the feet of a man hidden in a hole, plucks him out by the heeles; this proves to be *Claudius*, who falling on his knees, and desiring his life might be spared, the Soldiers lift him on their shoulders, and proclaim him Emperor; This took so with the multitude, that the Senate for their own safety were fain to give way unto it.

In the fiftieth year of his Age he attained to the Empire, and he was the first of all the *Cæsars* that obliged unto him the Soldiers fealty by a fee and reward.

Primus Cæsarum fidem militis præmio pignoratus. Sueton.

His Mother *Antonia* was wont to call him, *Portentum hominis*, The Monster, and fantasticall shape of a man, as if he had not been

Nec absolutum à Natura, sed inchoatum.

been finiſhed, but only begun by Nature; and if ſhe reproved any one for his fooliſhneſs, ſhe would ſay, *He was more ſottiſh than her Son Claudius.*

Ante Imperium ſine fama fuit, quia latuit,
In Imperio infamis, quia non latuit.
Clarior erat, ſi fuiſſet obſcurior.
Emanuelis Theſauri Cæſares.

Triumphavit ſemel, pugnavit nunquam, ſaith he alſo of him. And again,

Omnia in imperio habuit præter Imperium.

He was perſonable, and carried a preſence not without Authority and Majeſty. His countenance was lively, his gray hairs beautiful, which became him well, with a good fat and round neck under them; yet many things diſgraced him, *viz.* undecent laughter, and unſeemly anger, by reaſon that he would froth and ſlaver at the mouth, and had evermore his noſe dropping, his head continually ſhaking, ſomewhat ſtammering in his ſpeech.

He was inhumane towards ſtrangers, & made an Edict forbidding all ſtrangers, *Romanorum gentilitia nomina ferre*, to be called by the Roman names. *Sueton.*

He commanded all Jewes to depart from *Rome*, Act 18.2.

The Jewes (ſaith *Suetonius*) who by inſtigation of one * *Chreſtus*, were evermore tumultuous, he baniſhed *Rome*.

Acts 11. 28. there is mention made of a great Dearth throughout all the World, which

* This ſome think is to be underſtood of Chriſtians, whom we find in the Eccleſiaſtical writers to be miſnamed by the Ethnick Infidels Chriſtians, like as Chriſt himſelf *Chreſtus* in ſcorn.

which came to pass in the dayes of *Claudius Cæsar*, of which famine *Eusebius*, **Josephus*, **Tacitus*, & *Suetonius* likewise speak.

* Lib 20. Antiq. c. 2.
* Lib. 12. of his Annals.

There was a woman that would not acknowledge her own son, and when by evidences and arguments alledged *pro & contra* on both sides, the question rested in equall ballance doubtful, he awarded that she should be wedded to the young man; and so forced her to confess the truth, and to take him for her child.

One cryed out upon a forger of writings, and required that both his hands might be cut off; he made no more ado, but forthwith called instantly to have the Hangman sent for, with his chopping-knife and Butchers block to do the deed. *Sueton.*

The Lawyers were wont to abuse his Patience so much, that as he was going down from the Judgement Seat, they would not only call upon him to come back again, but also take hold of his Gown-lappet and skirt, yea and some while catch him by the foot, and so hold him still with them; one of the *Grecian* Lawyers pleading before him, in earnest altercation used these words, Καὶ σὺ γέρων εἶ καὶ μωρός, *Et tu senex es & stultus.* Thou art both old and fool besides.

Stultus prudentibus, prudens stultis visus,
Emanuelis Thesauri Cæsares.

Claudius inviſæ privato in tempore vitæ,
In regno ſpecimen prodidit ingenii. Ausonius.

Libertina ferens nuptarumq; improba facta,
Non faciendo nocens, ſed patiendo fuit.

He gave this counſel to a libidinous young man *Si non caſtè, tamen cautè.* And his Symbol, was, *Generis virtus nobilitas.*

Idem planè accidit Herodi Magno, cum uxorem Mariamnem occidiſſet. Joſephus *Orig. lib.* 10. *c.* 11. Caſaubonus.

He was very forgetful; when *Meſſalina* was (by his own commandment) killed, within a while after he asked, *Cur Domina non veniret?* Why his Lady came not to him? Many of thoſe whom he had condemned, the very morrow immediately after he ſent for, to bear him company at dice-play.

Sueton.

One of his Gueſts, who was thought to have cloſely ſtollen away a cup of Gold the day before, he re-invited again the morrow, and then ſet before him a ſtone-pot to drink in.

Sueton.

It is reported that he meant to ſet forth an Edict, *Quo veniam daret flatum crepitumque ventris in convivio emittendi*, wherein he would give folk leave to break wind downward, and let it go even with crack at the very board; having certain intelligence, that there was one who for manners and modeſty ſake, by holding it in endangered his life.

Hence the Epigram,

Edicto vetuit crepitus ructuſque moveri
Claudius; o medici Principis Ingenium!

Suetonius.

He played at Dice moſt earneſtly, (concerning the Art and skill whereof he publiſhed alſo a little book) being wont to ply the Game even whiles he was carried up and down, having his Caroch and Dice-board

board ſo fitted, as there might be no confuſion nor ſhufling at all in play.

He was very timorous and puſillanimous at his firſt coming to the Empire; he durſt not for certain dayes go to any feaſt, without Penſioners ſtanding about him with their Spears and Javelins, & his Soldiers waiting at the table; neither viſited he any ſick perſon, unleſs the Bed-chamber where the party lay was firſt ſearched: He would ſcarce ſuffer Attendants and Clarks to carry their Pen-ſheaths, and Pen-knife-caſes.

Erat Natura performidoloſus. Aurel. Vict.

Sueton.

He concealed not his fooliſhneſs, but gave it out, and proteſted in certain ſhort Orations, that he counterfeited himſelf a fool for the nonce during *Caius* dayes, becauſe otherwiſe he would not have eſcaped, nor attained to the Imperial place which he aimed at, and was then entred upon.

He ſailed beyond Britain, and ſubdued the *Orcades*, added them to the Roman Empire, and called his Sons name, * *Britannicus*.

* Eutropius. *Claudius Cæſar, tumultuantem Britanniam perdomuit; ab eo Claudio ceſtrium oppidum, quod nunc Gloceſtrium dicunt.*

He was not uneloquent, nor unlearned, but was rather a great ſtudent in the Liberal Sciences. He wrote Hiſtories, *Livie* being his Tutor. He had good skill in the Greek Tongue, profeſſing as any occaſion was offered, his affectionate love to it, and the excellency thereof. When a certain Barbarian diſcourſed in Greek and Latine; *See you be skilfull* (quoth he) *in both our Languages.*

Utroque ſermone noſtro ſis peritus.

Extant & in ipſa imperii Claudiani *adminiſtratione, quædam Principis non mali documenta. Bæclerus.*

It was generally thought that he was killed by poiſon; and it was a juſt Judgement of God upon him, for he was ſo gluttonous and inſatiable in eating and drinking, that he thought no time or place ſufficient thereto; & ever did eat ſo much, that moſt commonly ſurfeiting, he uſed Vomits to diſcharge his ſtomack, putting a feather into his throat; in which feather ſome Authors affirm that poiſon was given him.

Others ſay, *Agrippina* his Wife tempered the poiſon in the meat which he moſt delighted in, *viz.* a Muſhrome, *Infuſum delectabili cibo boletorum venenum* Tacit. Annal. *Boletum medicatum avidiſſimo ciborum talium obtulit.* Sueton. Whence Martial. *Boletum, qualem Claudius edit, edas.*

The Virgin *Mary* dyed in his time, in the 59. year of her age, ſaith *Nicephorus.*

He lived 64 years, ſay ſome: 63 years, 2 months, and 13 dayes, ſaith *Caſaubon.*

He reigned 13 years, 8 moneths, and 20 dayes, ſay *Dio*, and *Joſephus.* He reigned 14 years, according to *Tacitus, Suetonius, Clem. Alexand. Eutrop. Oroſius*; 13 years 8 moneths, and 20 dayes after *Euſebius.* 14 years, 7 moneths, and 28 dayes after *Beda.* But the whole time of his reign was 13 years, 8 moneths, and 20 dayes. They which do give unto him 14 years, do count the odde moneths for a whole year.

13 years, 9 moneths, and 7 dayes, ſaith *Tertul.*

Doct. Willet.

Nero

Nero Cæsar.

NERO was a proper Name (which noted Vertue and Fortitude, of that Greek word νεῦρα the ſinews, being the conjunction and ſtrength of the members) and ſuch perſons alſo were of the Romans called *Neroes*, as excelled others in the moſt egregious Fortitude and Noble Vertues. Afterward when this Tyrant *Nero* (who deſcended of the *Claudii* which were *Sabines*) had degenerated from all the Heroicall vertues of his Anceſtors, and became ſo bloody and cruel, he gave occaſion to poſterity to change that proper name into a name Appellative, ſo that they called them that were cruel *Nerones*, and thoſe that were more cruel *Neroniores*.

Alex. *ab* Alex. *Gen. dier. l.* 1. *c.* 9. Gell. *l.* 11.

When

Suetonius. *Mali corvi malum ovum.* See the like of Tiberius, and of Caligula in. *Suetonius.* c. 11.

When *Domitius* his friends by way of gratulation wiſhed him joy of his Son new born, he ſaid, That of himſelf and *Agrippina* there could nothing come into the world but accurſed, deteſtable, and to the hurt of the weal Publick.

Of ſtature he was indifferent, within a little of 6 foot; his body full of ſpeckles, and freckles, and foul of skin beſides. The hair of his head ſomewhat yellow, his countenance and viſage rather fair than lovely and well-favoured. His eyes gray and dim, his neck full and fat, his body bearing out, and his legs ſlender and ſmall.

He began his reign with a glorious ſhew of piety and kindneſs. Thoſe Tributes and Taxes which were any thing heavy, he either quite, aboliſhed or abated. Whenſoever he was put in mind to ſubſcribe, & ſet his hand to a warrant for the execution of any perſon condemned to dye, he would ſay, *Quàm vellem neſcire literas!* O that I knew not one letter of the book! *Seneca* his Tutor did much extoll that ſpeech of his, as if it had proceeded from a pitiful heart.

Suetonius.

Lib 2. de Clementia.

Factus Natura, & conſuetudine exercitus velare odium fallacibus blanditiis. Tacitus *Annal.* 14. Sueton. *Imitatur illam Auguſti vocem, Si merebuntur.*

He was framed by Nature, and practiſed by cuſtom (ſaith *Tacitus*) to cloak hatred with flattering ſpeeches.

Many times he ſaluted all the degrees of the City one after another, by rote and without book. When the Senate upon a time gave him thanks, he anſwered, *Cum meruero*, Do ſo when I ſhall deſerve.

Within

Within the firſt twelve moneths of his Government, he poiſoned *Britannicus*, who was his Cozen-german, his adoptive Brother and Teſtamentary partner in the Empire. *Boltons Nero Cæſar.*

His *quinquennium* or firſt five years were ſuch, that *Trajan* himſelf is ſaid to have admired, uſing this ſpeech, *Procul differre cunctos Principes Neronis quinquennio.* But it is thought that it was rather the reign of his Governors *Seneca* and *Burrhus*, than properly his. Aurel. Vict.

Neronis initia, ſi demas parricidium, Claudii, *cujus etſi non auctor, conſcius tamen fuit, itemque Britannici jus interverſum, de cætero valde ſpecioſa fuerunt: Abdetis adhuc vitiis, & prævalentibus bonarum rerum auctoribus. Bæcleri Diſſertatio Politica.*

He delighted exceedingly in Muſick, and would ſhew his skill upon the open ſtage, often uſing the Greek Proverb, *That hidden Muſick was nought worth.* All the while he was ſinging, it was not lawful for any perſon to depart out of the Theatre, were the cauſe never ſo neceſſary. It is reported, that ſome great-bellied woman falling into travel, were delivered upon the very Scaffolds; yea, & many men beſides weary of tedious hearing, & prayſing him, when the Town gates were ſhut, either by ſtealth ſlept down from the Walls, or counterfeiting Suetonius. Suetonius.

He not only commanded all the Statues and Images of the moſt excellent Muſitians to be defaced, and his own to be erected in lieu of them; but alſo put many of them under hand to death, by emulation of their fame. *Sueton. & Bapt. Fulg. l. 8.*

ting

ting themſelves dead, were carried forth as Corpſes to be buried. But how timorouſly, with what thought and anguiſh of mind, with what emulation of his concurrents, and fear of the Umpire he ſtrove for Maſtery, it is almoſt incredible. He never durſt once ſpit and reach up flegm, and he wiped away the very ſweat of his forhead with his arm only.

There was a boy named *Sporus*, whoſe genitories he cut off, and aſſayed thereby to transform him into the nature of a woman: then he cauſed him to be brought unto him, as a Bride without a dowry, in a fine yellow vail after the ſolemn manner of Marriage, not without a goodly train attending upon him, whom he maintained as a wife; whereupon one brake this witty jeſt, *That it would have been happy for the world, if* Domitius *(his Father) had wedded ſuch a wife.*

Sueton.

He ſaid jeſtingly of *Claudius*, That he left *morari inter homines*, with a long ſyllable, meaning that he ſpent his dayes fooliſhly.

Suetonius. **Divitiarum ac pecuniæ fructum non alium putabat quàm profuſionem.*

Epulas à medio die ad mediam noctem protrahebat.

He held out his Feaſts from noon-day till mid-night.

Sueton. *Nero quadragenis in punctum Seſtertiis aleam luſit.* Cœl. Rhod. *l.* 20. *c.* 24.

* He was very profuſe and prodigal in expences, he never put on the ſame Garment twice; when he played at hazard, he ventured no leſſe than 3125 pounds at a caſt, upon every point or prick of the chance.

chance. He fished with a golden Net, drawn and knit with cords twisted of purple, and crimson silk in grain. When he made any journey, he never had under 1000 Caroches in his train, his Mules were shod with silver, but in no one thing was he more wastful than in building. * His house was so large that it contained three Galleries of a mile a piece in length, & a standing Pool like unto a Sea, & the same inclosed round about with buildings in form of Cities. It was laid all over with gold, garnished with precious stones, and mother of pearl. He said, *He now at length began to live like a man*: and himself named it, *Domum auream*, a golden house. His Mother *Agrippina* being with Child with him, went to consult with the Chaldeans or South-sayers about her Son; they answered her, That he should reign, but kill his Mother; but she being very ambitious, slighted that, saying, *Occidat modo imperit*, Let him kill me so he may be King.

Suetonius. *Bis & vicies mille sestertium donationibus Nero effuderat.* Tacit. *l.* 1. *Hist. c.* 6. He most lavishly gave away two and twenty hundred millions of Sesterces.

* See *Sueton.* and *Tacitus* of this house, Annal. 15. c. 10. It is reported also of *Heliogabalus*, that his apparel was rich, and most extream costly, and yet he would never wear one garment twice; his shooes were embellished with Pearls and Diamons; his seat strewed with musk and amber; his bed covered with gold and purple, and beset with most costly jewels; his way strewed with the powder of gold and silver; his vessels (even of basest use) all gold; his diet so profuse, that at every supper in his Court was usually spent 1000 l. sterling.

This

This was accompliſhed afterwards, for he cauſed his Mother to be murdered, and not only ſo, but (which was more horrible) he took an exact view of her dead body, and beheld it Crowner-like, ſaying, *He did not think he had had ſo fair a Mother.*

Neque tamen ſceleris conſcientiam, aut ſtatim aut unquam poſt ferre potuit; ſæpe confeſſus exagitari ſe materna ſpecie, verberibus furiarum, ac tædis ardentibus. Suetonius.

The ſentence nevertheleſs doth in part acquit him from her inceſtuous familiaritie. For how was it ſtrange to him that his Mother ſhould be ſo handſome, if ſhe had been his Concubine? *Boltons Nero Cæſar.*

His Father he poiſoned, he ſlew his Brother *Germanicus*, and his Siſter *Antonia*, and both his wives *Poppæa* and *Octavia*, his Aunt *Domitia*, his ſon in law *Rufinus*, and his Inſtructers, *Seneca* and *Lucan.*

Eutropius. Sueton. Aurel. Vict. Oroſius.

There was no kind of affinity, and conſanguinity, were it never ſo near, but it felt the weight of his deadly hands.

The firſt perſecution was under him in the 13. year of his reign.* *Tertullian* calls him, *Dedicator damnationis noſtræ, i.e.* the firſt that made a Law to condemn Chriſtians to death.

* *In Apologet. cap. 5. Primus Nero in hanc ſectam cum maximè Roma orientem Cæſariano gladio ferociit.*

Tertullian, || *Euſebius*, † *Lactantius*,* and others ſay, that he put *Peter* and *Paul* to death.

|| *Hiſt. Eccleſ. l. 2. c. 25.*

† *L. 13. de vera Sap. c. 21.*

* *Aret. Probl. Pet. du Moul.* Def. of the Cathol. Faith *l. ubi ſupra.*

Paulus à Nerone (ſaith Euſebius) *Romæ capite truncatus, & Petrus palo affixus ſcribuntur; & Hiſtoria hujus fidem facit, quod illic cœmeteria habentur in quibus Petri & Pauli nuncupatio ad hunc uſque diem obtinet.*

Chryſ.

Chryſ. and *Theophyl.* upon the fourth Chapter of the ſecond to *Timonby*, alledge this to be the cauſe wherefore he put *Paul* to death, becauſe *Paul* had converted to the Chriſtian Faith *Nero's* Butler, whom he made great account of; thereunto he commanded him to be beheaded: others ſay, it was becauſe he converted one of *Nero* his Concubines, which afterward refuſed to company with him; but we need aſſigne no other cauſe of *Nero's* rage againſt the Apoſtle, than that which *Euſebius* and *Jerom* both do touch, the cruelty of that bloody Tyrant joyned with a wicked deteſtation of the Chriſtian Faith.

Though *Nero* were ſo wicked, yet *Paul* maketh mention of ſome Saints in his Court. Phil. 4. 22.

His cruelty is by *Paul* compared to the mouth of a Lion, 2. *Tim.* 4. 17. but here then ariſeth an objection, how *Paul* ſhould ſuffer under him, when he ſaith there, that he was delivered? Therefore *Paul* was his priſoner twice, he was ſet at liberty after his firſt impriſonment at *Rome*, *Phil.* 1. 25. *Philem.* 22. *Heb.* 13. 23. 2 *Tim.* 4. 16, 17. The reaſon is thus alledged by *Euſebius*; *Neronem in principio Imperii mitiorem fuiſſe*, That *Nero* in the beginning of his Empire was more gentle and mild, but afterward when *Paul* was taken again, *Nero* then being become a moſt cruel Tyrant, cauſed him to be put to death. He dyed in the 14. year of *Nero's* reign, and the 37. year after the Paſſion of Chriſt.

Euſeb. *in Chron.* & Hieron. *lib. de Script. Eccleſ.*

Seneca diſſwaded him from killing ſome, with this ſpeech, *Licèt* (ſaith he) *quam plurimos*

rimos occidas, tamen non pates ſucceſſorem tuum occidere. Xiphiline. Although thou killeſt very many, yet thou canſt not kill thy Succeſſor.

The Tyrannous rage of this Emperor was ſo fierce againſt the Chriſtians (as *Euſebius* reporteth) *uſque adeo ut videret repletas humanis corporibus civitates, jacentes mortuos ſimul cum parvulis ſenes, fœminarumque abſque ulla ſexus reverentia in publico rejecta ſtarent cadavere: i. e.* Inſomuch that a man might then ſee Cities lye full of mens bodies, the old lying there with the young, and the dead bodies of women caſt out naked, without all reverence of that Sex, in the open ſtreets.

In this perſecution alſo *James* the greater, and the leſſe, *Philip*, *Bartholomew*, *Barnabas*, *Mark*, ſuffered.

Chriſtians were covered in wild beaſts skins, and torn in pieces with Dogs, or faſtned on croſſes, or burn in fire; and when the day failed, they were burnt in the night, to make them ſerve as torches to give light. They put a pitched coat upon the Chriſtians to make them burn the better, called *Tunica moleſta*, a troubleſome coat.

Sulpitius Severus obſerves this of *Nero* (in the 3. book of his Hiſtory) *that it was his own bad life which made him hate Chriſtians*; for he ſtill thought they cenſured him; and could not but expect, what they knew he deſerved.

He

Yet *Seneca* was the Author of *Agrippinas* death, upon the ſuppoſition of neceſſity. *Hiſt. Eccleſ. l.* 2. *c.* 24, 25, 26.

Nero ſubdidit reos, & quæſitiſſimis pœnis affecit eos, quos per flagitia inviſos, vulgus Chriſtianos appellabat; Auctor ejus nominis Chriſtus. Tacit. 15. *Annal.*

Addita pereuntibus ludibria, ut ferarum tergoribus contecti, canum laniatu interirent, aut crucibus affixi, aut flammandi; & ubi dies defeciſſet, in uſum nocturni luminis urerentur. Tacit. *l.* 1. *Annal.* Sueton. *in Claud.*

He cauſed *Rome* to be ſet on fire in twelve places together, that he might the better conceive the flames of *Troy*, ſinging unto it *Homer*'s verſes, and being a pleaſant Spectator thereof, as at a *Feude-joy*. *Ad levandam ſceleris atrocitatem* (ſaith *Polyd.* **Virgil*) to avoid the infamy thereof, he laid the fault on the innocent, and ſuborned ſome falſly to accuſe the Chriſtians as Authors of that fire; whereupon he put many of them to death: but *Tacitus* will clear them, who yet was their enemy. *Non perinde* (ſaith he) *crimine incendii, quàm odio humani generis convicti ſunt.*

* Lib. 8. *de Invent. rerum* cap. 6. *Tacitus* calleth them, hated for their wickedneſs, guilty, and worthy of utmoſt puniſhment, and their Religion a peſtilent and pernicious ſuperſtition. See 15. of his Annal. c. 10.

Suetonius (being no Chriſtian) calleth the Chriſtians men of new and pernicious ſuperſtition: *Afflicti ſupplicijs Chriſtiani*, (ſaith he) *genus hominum ſuperſtitionis novæ & maleficæ.*

Sub Nerone ſæva & infeſta Virtutibus tempora. Non niſi grande aliquod bonum à Nerone damnatum. Tertul. *Apol. adverſus Gentes. Nero virtutem ipſam exſcindere concupivit.* Tacit. Annal. l. 16.

Under *Nero* to do ill was not alwaies ſafe, alwaies unſafe to do well. He was ſo hateful an adverſary to all righteouſneſs, that *Euſebius* following the example and words of *Tertullian*, affirmeth, that if the Goſpel had not been an excellent thing, it had not been condemned by *Nero*. He was (as *Auguſtine* * witneſſeth) commonly reputed Antichriſt. He came into the world as *Agrippa*, or born with his feet forward, and turned the world upſide down before he went out of it. In him alone all the corruptions which had been ingendred in *Rome*, from

* Lib. 20. c. 19. *De Civit. Dei.* In his time, *Amnes retro fluere viſi ſunt.* Plin. l. 2. c. 103

the birth of *Rome* till his own daies, seemed drawn together into one impostume or boyl.

When one in common talk upon a time chanced to say,

Ἐμοῦ θανόντος γαῖα μιχθήτω πυρί.

Sueton. *When vital breath is fled from me,*
Let earth with fire mingled be.

Nay rather, quoth he, ἐμοῦ ζῶντος, *whiles vital spirit remains in me.*

Erat ei æternitatis perpetuæque famæ cupido, sed inconsultâ. Suetonius. Which thing in him *Commodus* the Emperor imitated, calling *Rome Commodiana.*

He had a desire (though it were foolish and inconsiderate) of eternity and perpetual fame, and therefore abolishing the old names of many things and places, he did put upon them new after his own. He called the Month *April Neroneus*, he meant also to have named *Rome*, *Neropolis*, *Nero*'s City.

* Tacit. *l.* 13. *of* Annal.

He pronounced an oration composed by *Seneca*: * It was observed, that he was the first Emperor that needed another mans Eloquence; for *Julius Cæsar* was equal with the famous Orators: and *Augustus* had a ready, fluent, and eloquent speech, such as well became a Prince; *Tiberius* had great skill in weighing his words; yea, *Caligula*'s troubled mind hindered not his eloquence; neither wanted *Claudius* elegancy, when he had premeditated.

Post Tacitum scripsit, eumque interdum tacitè redarguit. Famian. Strad. (*Prolus. Hist. b.* 1.

The study of *Nero* was Versification, which *Tacitus* thinks he borrowed, having no gift therein at all; but *Suetonius* (who often doth disagree with *Tacitus*, unnamed)

unnamed) both proves he had, and proves it well: it was one of his exerciſes to tranſlate Greek Tragedies into Latine, who made true Tragedies in blood, ſuch as even the Greeks never feigned.

Nothing netled him more than when he was blamed by *Vindex* for an unskilful Muſitian: he ſaid of himſelf a little before his death, *Qualis Artifex pereo?* What an excellent Artiſan do I dye? meaning of his skill in playing of Tragedies; as indeed his whole life and death was all but one Tragedy.

Being admoniſhed by Aſtrologers that he ſhould once be caſt out of the Empire, he is reported to have uſed this ſpeech to himſelf, *Artem quævis terrâ alit; nimirum intelligens citharisticam, principi gratam, privato neceſſariam, quam exercere eum non puduit.*

Veſpaſian asked *Apollonius, what was* Nero's *overthrow?* he anſwered, Nero *could touch and tune the Harp well, but in Government ſometimes he uſed to wind the pins too high, and ſometimes to let them down too low*; thereby intimating, that he applyed Corroſives where gentle Lenitives would have ſerved the turn, and again he applyed Lenitives where Corroſives were needful.

Deductus (Nero) *in forum tyro, populo congiarium, Militi Donativum propoſuit.* Sueton.

Additum nomine Neronis Donativum Militi, congiarium plebi. Tacit. 12. *Annal.*

Imperatoris munus quod populo dabatur congiarium dictum eſt, quod vero Militibus, Donativum. Alex. ab Alex. *Gendier. l.* 5. *c.* 24.

The Princes liberalities to the Soldiers were called *Donativa*, (which they beſtowed upon ſome great victory, or rather extraordinary occaſions;) to the people, or otherwiſe to his friends, *Congiaria*; doubtleſs becauſe at the firſt certain meaſures called *Congii*, of wine or oyl were beſtowed, and afterwards other things were given, yet the ancient name remained.

Mos erat principibus Romanis, ut ſimulatque Auguſti *à militibus nuncupati erant, donativum eis erogarent, quo militum benevolentiam conciliarent ſibi.* Valeſius *in* Marcellini. *lib.* 26.

Vindex firſt ſtirred the ſtone, which rowling tumbled *Nero* out of his ſeat.

When it was told *Julius Vindex*, that *Nero* by publick Edict had prized his head at 10000 thouſand Seſterces, (that is above fourſcore thouſand pounds in our coin,) Well, quoth he again, and he that kils *Nero*, and brings me his head, ſhall have mine in exchange. *Qui Neronem interfecerit, & ad me caput ejus attulerit, is meum accipiet caput in mercedis loco.* Xiphilin.

Nero conſulting the Delphick (or rather divelliſh) Oracle, he received this anſwer, That he ſhould take heed of th year 73 which he ſuppoſing to be meant of his own age, reſted ſecure, being far ſhort of it; but he was deluded by the ambiguous conſtruction of thoſe words, and ſo fell into the hands of *Galba*, a man indeed of thoſe years.

At laſt the Senate proclaiming him a publick enemy unto Mankind, condemned him to be drawn through the City, and to be whipped to death; which ſentence when he heard of, finding no man to ſtrike him, and exclaiming againſt them all, "What, have I neither friend nor foe? "(*ſaid he*) I have lived diſhonorably, let "me

Sir *Henry Savil* on *Tacit. Nec adhuc erat damnati Principis exemplum.* Neither was there ever before a Preſident of any Prince by publick ſentence depoſed. *Tacit. l.* 1. Hiſt. *Sueton.* He entreated that ſome one of thoſe that were with him, would kill himſelf firſt, and by his example help him to take his death. *Itaque nec amicum habeo, nec inimicum; dedecoroſe vixi, turpius peream.* Aurel. Vict.

"me dye ſhamefully; and then he ſtrake himſelf throagh with his own ſword, and was a horuible ſpectacle to all beholders.

Defecit que extantibus rigentibuſque oculis, ad horrorem formidinemque viſentium. Sueton.

Romæ demum vitam reddit cum ſuam projecit:
Injuſtus aliis Judex, juſtus ſibi.
Emanuelis Theſauri Cæſares.

He dyed in the 32 year of his age, ſaith *Suetonius*; and 14 year of his reign, ſay *Tacitus*, *Clem. Alexand.* *Euſebius*, and *Eutropius*, the very day of the year on which he had murdered his wife *Octavia*; and by his death brought ſo great joy unto the people generally, that the Commons wore caps to teſtifie their freedom recovered, and ran ſporting up and down throughout the City.

Some ſay that *Nero* is yet alive (ſaith *Baronius* out of *Sueton.* & *Severus*) although he did thruſt himſelf through with a ſword yet ſome think that his wounds were healed, and that he ſurvived according to that in the *Rev.* 13. 3. and that he ſhall be Antichriſt; but *Bellarmine* himſelf ſaith, It is a perſumptuous folly to ſay that *Nero* ſhall be revived and received as Antichriſt; and *Suarez* calls it, *Anilem fabulam*, a fooliſh Fable.

Vide Boxhornii *Hiſt. Univerſ. à Chriſti tempore. p.* 125, 126, 127.

Sulpitius

Sulpitius Galba.

Progenies Cæsarum in Nerone defecit, saith *Sueton. Est certum & omnes Historici notant*, saith *Casaubon* upon him. In *Nero* the majestical tree of the *Cæsars* withered. *Bolton's Nero Cæsar* c. 1. 5. See more there.

Some think his name *Galba* came by occasion of a Town in *Spain*, which after it had been a long time in vain assaulted, he at length set on fire with burning brands besmeared all over with *Galbanum*: others, because in a long sickness which he had, he used continually *Galbeum*, i. e. *remedies* wrapped in wooll: some again because he seemed very fat, and such a one the *French* doth name *Galba*: or contrariwise because he was slender, as certain little worms are called *Galbæ*.

Sueton.

He

He ſucceeded *Nero*, Both *Suetonius* and *Tacitus* accurately deſcribe him, and his age being much deſpiſed, there was great licentiouſneſs and confuſion; whereupon a Senator ſaid in full Senate, *It were better to live where nothing is lawful, than where all things are lawful.*

Ipſa ætas Galbæ & irriſui & faſtidio erat aſſuetis juventæ Neronis, & Imperatores forma ac decore corporis (ut eſt mos vulgi) comparantibus. Tacit. *l.* 1. *Hiſt.*

He was of full ſtature, his head bald, his eies gray, and his noſe hooked; his hands and feet by reaſon of the Gout exceeding crooked, inſomuch as he was not able to abide ſhooes on the one, or to hold his books with the other.

Statura fuit juſta, capite præcalvo, oculis cæruleis, adunco naſo, manibus pedibuſque articulari morbo diſtortiſſimis: ut neque calceum perpeti, neque libellos evolvere aut tenere omnino valeret. Suetonius. *Ingenium Galbæ malè habitat.*

There was an excreſcence or bunch of fleſh in the right ſide of his body, and it hung downward ſo much, as it could hardly be tyed up with a truſs or ſwathing band: yet he had a great wit, though a deformed body, like a good inſtrument in a bad caſe.

Being with general applauſe and great good liking placed in ſtate, he behaved himſelf under expectation, and though in moſt points he ſhewed himſelf a vertuous Prince, yet his good Acts were not ſo memorable, as thoſe were odious and diſpleaſant wherein he did amiſs. *Suetonius.* Sir *Henry Savil on* Tacit.

He obtained the Empire with greater favour and authority than he managed it when he was therein; ſo that he over-

Plutarch. came *Nero* by his good name, and the good opinion men had of him, and not through his own force and power.

Tacitus, l. 1. Hiſt. *Major privato viſus dum privatus fuit, & omnium conſenſu capax Imperii niſi imperaſſet.* He ſeemed more than a private man whileſt he was private, and by all mens opinions capable of the Empire, had he never been Emperor.

His verbis claudit Tacitus deſcriptionem Galbæ, *qua more Hiſtoricis uſitato; ſuprema ejus pro ſequitur.* Bœcleri. *Diſſertatio. Hiſtorica.*

Auſon. Epigr. *Spem fruſtrate ſenex, privatus ſceptra mereri*
Viſus es, Imperio proditus inferior:
Fama tibi melior juveni, ſed juſtior ordo eſt,
Complacuiſſe dehinc, diſplicuiſſe prius.

Tacitus, l. 1. Hiſt. *Vetus in familia Nobilitas, magnæ opes.* Tacitus. *Famæ nec incurioſus, nec venditator: Pecuniæ alienæ non appetens, ſuæ parcus, publicæ avarus.* Tacitus. l. 1. *Hiſt.* Suetonius. Plutarch. Aurel. Vict. Eutropius.

He lived in honourable fame and eſtimation in the reign of five Emperors, *Alieno Imperio fælicior quam ſuo.* He was in greater proſperity, and lived more happily under the Empire of others than in his own. His houſe was of ancient Nobility and great wealth, He neither neglected his fame, nor yet was ambitiouſly careful of it: of other mens money he was not greedy, ſparing of his own, of the common a niggard.

As he ſacrificed within a publick Temple, a Boy among other Miniſters holding the Cenſer, ſuddenly had all the hair of his head turned gray. Some made this interpretation of it, that thereby was ſignified a change in the State, and that an old

old man ſhould ſucceed a young, even himſelf in *Nero's* ſtead.

He was of a middle temperature, neither to be admired nor contemned; *Ipſi medium ingenium, magis extra vitia, quàm cum virtutibus*, rather void of ill parts, than furniſhed with good. *Tacitus* l. 1. Hiſt. The ſame ſaith *Hayward* of our *Henry* the fourth.

In the Palace, *Julius Atticus*, one of the bill-men met him, holding out a bloody ſword in his hand, with which he cryed aloud, he had ſlain *Otho*; *My friend*, quoth *Galba*, *who bad thee?* A man of rare vertue (ſaith *Tacitus*) to keep in awe a licentious Soldier; whom neither threats could terrifie, nor flattering ſpeech corrupt and abuſe: thence it was a uſual ſpeech through the Camp. *Hujus breve Imperium fuit, & quod bona haberet exordia, niſi ad ſeveritatem promptior videretur.* Eutropius.

Diſce Miles militare,
Galba eſt, non Getulicus.
Learn Soldiers ſervice valorous,
Galba is here, and not Getulicus.

Eor eight years ſpace (before he was Emperor) he governed a Province of *Spain* variably, and with an uneven hand; at ffrſt ſharp, ſevere, violent, afterward he grew to be ſlothful, careleſs, idle.

Being entreated for a Gentleman condemned, that he might not die the death of ordinary Malefactors, he commanded that the Gallows ſhould be *dealbata*, whited, or coloured for him; *Quaſi ſolatio & honore pœnam levaturus*, as if the painted Gibbet might add ſolace and honour to his death. The Delinquent pleaded that he was a Roman Citizen, and therefore not to be crucified.

When

When there was a queſtion made of an heifer before him, whoſe it ſhould be, arguments and witneſſes being brought on both ſides; he ſo decreed it, that ſhe ſhould be led with her head covered to the place where ſhe was wont to be watered, and there being uncovered, he judged her his to whom ſhe went of her own accord.

Among the liberal Sciences he gave himſelf to the ſtudy of the Civil Law.

Laudata olim, & militari fama celebrata ſeveritas ejus angebat coaſpernantes veterem diſciplinam, atque ita 14. annis à Nerone aſſuefactos, ut haud minus vitia Principum amarent, quàm olim virtutes verebantur. Tacit. l. 1. *Hiſt.*

He cryed to his Soldiers, *Ego veſter, & vos mei*; I am wholly devoted unto you, and you are wholly devoted unto me.

His ſeverity which was wont to be highly commended by the voice of the Soldiers, was now diſpleaſant to them who were generally weary of the ancient Diſcipline, and ſo trained up by *Nero* 14 years, that now they loved their Emperors no leſs for their vices, than once they reverenced them for their vertues.

Cornel. Tacitus. l. 1. *Hiſt.*

His hardneſs towards his Soldiers cauſed him to fall; for a large Donative being promiſed to them in *Galba's* name, and they requiring if not ſo much, yet ſo much at leaſt as they were wont to receive, he wholly refuſed the ſuit, adding withall, *Legi à ſe militem, non emi*, That his manner had ever been to chooſe, and not to buy his Soldiers.

Tacit. *lib.* 1. *Hiſt.*

Vox pro republica honeſta, ipſi anceps; A ſaying no doubt fit for a great Prince in a more vertuous age, not ſo in thoſe ſeaſons for

for him, who ſuffered himſelf to be ſold every hour, and abuſed to all purpoſes.

He was killed by the wiles of *Otho*, in the Market-place; the Soldiers flying upon him, and giving him many wounds, he held out his neck unto them, and bad them ſtrike hardly, if it were to do their Country good. *Eutropius.* *Plutarch.*

He dyed in the 73. year of his age, and ſeventh month of his Empire. *Suetonius.* *Eutropius.* 7 Months, 6 daies, *Tertul.* 7 Months 2 daies, *Euſebius.*

He reigned ſeven months, and ſo many daies. *Aurel. Vict.*

Salvius

Salvius Otho.

GALBA rather received the Empire offered to him, than took it from another. But *Otho* being ſtirred up with an ardent deſire of ruling, uſed ill means to compaſs his deſign. *A Galba beneficium reſpublica, ab Othone perniciem expectabat*, ſaith *Bæclerus* in his Political diſſertation. *Utrumque* (ſaith he) *brevitas temporis & infœlicitas exitus, ſimiles facit: niſi quod Galba alieno ſcelere; Otho autem ſuo, periere.*

Tacitus and *Suetonius* obſerve, that his Father was ſo like unto *Tiberius*, that moſt men held him to be his own Son.

Tam

Tam non abſimilis facie Tiberio principi fuit, ut plerique procreatum ex eo crederent. Sueton.

He was of a mean and low ſtature, he had feeble feet, and crooked ſhanks. He wore by reaſon of his thin hair a perruck or counterfeit cap of falſe hair, ſo fitted and faſtned to his head, that any man would have taken it for his own. He was wont to ſhave, and beſmear his face all over with ſoaked bread; this bread was made of bean and rice flower, of the fineſt wheat alſo; a *depilatory* to keep hair from growing, eſpecially being wet and ſoaked in ſome juyce or liquor appropriate thereto, as the blood of Bats, Frogs, or the Tunie-fiſh: to this effeminacy of *Otho* alludeth the Satyrical Poet in this Verſe,

Galericulus capiti propter raritatem capillorum adaptatus. Sueton.

Et preſſum in faciem digitis extendere panem. *Juvenal.*

Which deviſe he took to at firſt, when the down began to bud forth, becauſe he would never have a beard.

He was of a noble houſe (ſaith *Plutarch*) but ever given to ſenſuality and pleaſure from his Cradle: inſomuch as his Father ſwinged him and ſoundly for it. He uſed night-walking, and as he met any one either feeble or cupſhotten, he would catch hold of him, lay him upon a Soldiers Gabardine, and ſo toſſe and hoiſt him up in the air.

His Mothers ſide was more noble than his Fathers. *Vita omni turpis, maximè adoleſcentia.* Aurel. Vict. Suetonius.

Pueritiam incurioſe, adoleſcentiam petulanter egerat. He ſpent his tender years without

Tacit. l. 1. Hiſt.

without regard of his honour, his youth afterwards in all diſſolute diſſorder.

Suetonius. He repaired often to his Glaſs to ſee his face, that he might keep it clean.

Similitudo morum parit amicitiam, likeneſs is the cauſe of liking. He was one of *Nero*'s chief Minions and Favourites, ſuch was the congruence of their humours and diſpoſitions.

Tacit. l. 1. Hiſt. *Gratus Neroni æmulatione luxus.* He was in grace with *Nero* through emulation of vice.

Aurel. Vict. *Otho flagrantiſſimus in amicitia Neronis habebatur.* *Neroni criminoſe familiaris*, He was ſinfully familiar with *Nero*. He was privy and party to all his Counſels and ſecret deſigns; to avert all manner of ſuſpicion, Tacit. *Annal. l.* 13. that very day which *Nero* had appointed for the murthering of his Mother, he entertained them both at ſupper with moſt

Sueton. exquiſite Dainties, and the kindeſt welcome that might be.

Suetonius. Plutarch. He ſubſcribed *Nero*'s name unto his Letters Patents, till the Noble men of *Rome* miſliked it.

Tacitus Hiſt. lib. 1. *Fruſtrà moritur Nero, ſi Otho vivit.* He ſtrove by gifts, and all other means

Adorare vulgus, jacere oſcula, & omnia ſerviliter pro Imperio. to oblige the Soldiers unto him before he was Emperor, and to win their hearts by

Tacit. *Hiſt. lib.* 1. fair promiſes; he proteſted before them all aſſembled together, that himſelf would have and hold no more than juſt that which they would leave for him. One calleth him the Roman *Abſalom*.

Hee worſhipped the people, diſpenſed frequently his courteſies and plauſibilities, crouched and accommodated himſelf to the baſeſt routs, that thereby he might creep into an uſurped honour. *Tacit.* l. 2. Hiſt.

Cui

Cui uni apud Militem fides, dum & ipſe non niſi Militibus credit. The Soldiers only truſted him, becauſe he truſted none elſe. Plutarch.

All of them together put up a petition to him, and beſought him to command their perſons, whilſt they had one drop of blood left in their bodies to do him ſervice. But amongſt others, there was a poor Soldier drawing out his ſword, ſaid unto him, "Know, O *Cæſar*, that all my "Companions are determined to dye in "this ſort for thee; and ſo flew himſelf.

Rebus proſperis incertus, & inter adverſa melior. Tacitus.

A man in proſperity uncertainly carried, and governing himſelf in adverſity.

At the ſame time that he was created Emperor in the City of *Rome*, *Vitellius* was proclaimed Emperor in *Germany*.

Duo omnium mortalium impudicitia, ignavia, luxuria deterrimi, velut ad perdendum Imperium fataliter electi, ſaith *Tacitus* of *Otho* and *Vitellius*. *Tacitus* l. 1. Hiſt.

Two of all mortal men the moſt deteſtable creatures in ſlothfulneſs, incontinency, and waſtful life, fatally elected to ruine the Empire.

But though in the firſt book of *Tacitus* his Hiſtory they are both compared as like in oppoſition to a good Prince; yet in his ſecond book they are oppoſed the one to the other as unlike, with notes of diſtinction,

diſtinction. *Vitellii ignavæ voluptates, Othonis flagrantiſſimæ libidines. Vitellius ventre & gula ſibi ipſi hoſtis; Otho luxu, ſævitiâ, audacia, Reipublicæ exitioſior ducebatur;* of the one ſide, an ill mind in a man of nothing, and of the other, an ill mind joyned with courage and edge.

Vitellius a Drunkard and Glutton, *Otho* a wanton and licentious liver. *Plutarch.*

The drowſie Pleaſures of *Vitellius* were feared leſſe than the burning luſts of *Otho*. *Vitellius* in exceſſe of Belly-chear was an enemy to himſelf; *Otho* in riot, cruelty, audaciouſneſs, reputed more dangerous to the ſtate.

Plutarch.

It was hard to judge which of them two was moſt licentiouſly given, moſt effeminate, leaſt skilful, poorer or moſt indebted, before he was Emperor.

Tacitus l. 2. Hiſt.

Magna & miſera civitas eodem anno Othonem Vitelliumque paſſa. A great and miſerable City, which in the ſame year ſupported an *Otho* and a *Vitellius*.

We may learn by *Otho* (ſaid Sir *Henry Savil*) that the fortune of a raſh man is *Torrenti ſimilis*, which ariſeth at an inſtant, and falls in a moment.

Tacitus l. 2. Hiſt.

Alii diutius Imperium tenuerunt, nemo tam fortiter reliquet; it was his own ſpeech, Others have kept the Empire longer, none hath ever ſo valiantly left it.

Tacitus l. 2. Hiſt.

Plura de extremis loqui pars ignaviæ eſt.

Irent propere, ne remorando iram victoris exaſperarent. Tacitus Hiſt. l. 2.

He thought it a part of daſtardy to ſpeak too much of death.

When he ſaw his ſide the weaker and going to the walls, he counſelled his Soldiers

diers to provide for their ſafety by hying them to the winner.

Martial made this witty Epigram of his death, *l. 6. Epig.* 32.

Cum dubitaret adhuc belli civilis Enyo,
Forſitan & poſſet vincere mollis Otho:
Damnavit multo ſtaturum ſanguine Martem,
Et fodit certa pectora nuda manu.
Sit Cato, *dum vivit, ſane vel* Cæſare *major,*
Dum moritur, numquid major Othone *fuit?*

He ſlew himſelf with his own hands, but ſleept ſo ſoundly the night before, that the Grooms of his Chamber heard him ſnort. *Plutarch* reporteth the like of *Cato.*

Many of his Soldiers who were preſent about him, when with plentiful tears they had kiſſed his hands and feet as he lay dead, and commended him withall for a moſt valiant man, and the only Emperor that ever was; preſently in the place, and not far from the funeral fire killed themſelves. Many of them alſo who were abſent, hearing of the news of his end, for very grief of heart ran with their weapons one at another to death. *Plutarch. Suetonius. Aurel. Vict.*

Moſt men who in his life time curſed and deteſted him, when he was dead highly praiſed him; ſo as it was a common and rife ſpeech, that *Galba* was by him ſlain, not ſo much for that he affected to be Sovereign Ruler, as becauſe he deſired to recover the ſtate of the Republick, and the freedom that was loſt. He lived not much more honeſtly than *Nero*, but dyed far more honourably.

His ſaying was, *Melius eſt unum pro multis, quam pro uno multos mori*; an excellent and worthy ſpeech of an Emperor, preferring the publick good before his own private. *Sic imperium quod maximo ſcelere invaſerat, maxima virtute depoſuit*, as *Xiphilinus* noteth out of *Dion*.

More ſuo Tranquillus annum inchoatum pro pleno numerat. Nam alii 37. ſolum vixiſſe aiunt. Caſaub. *Animadverſ. in* Sueton.

He dyed but 37 years old ſaith *Plutarch*; 38 ſay *Eutropius*, and *Suetonius*; and was Emperor but three months, *Plutarch*; three months and five daies, *Tertullian*; four months, *Aurelius Victor*. He dyed in the 59. day of his Empire, ſaith *Eutropius*; 95. ſaith *Suetonius*.

Aulus

Aulus Vitellius.

HE was beyond measure tall; he had a red face, occasioned by swilling in wine, and a great fat paunch besides, & somewhat limped upon one leg, by a hurt formerly received. *Familia honorata magis quam nobili.* Eutropius.

He was stained with all manner of reprochable villanies; he was familiar with *Caius* for his love to Chariot-running, and with *Claudius* for his affection to Dice-play, but he was in greater favour with *Nero* for his wicked conditions likewise; for he attended and followed him as he did sing, not by compulsion, as many a good man, but selling his honour

to nouriſh his Riot, and feed his belly, to which he enthralled himſelf.

He found ſome ſupplications that were exhibited unto *Otho*, by ſuch as claimed reward for their good ſervice in killing *Galba*, and gave command that they ſhould be ſought out and executed every one. A worthy and magnificent beginning, ſuch as might give good hope of an excellent Prince, had he not managed all matters elſe according to his own natural diſpoſition, and the courſe of his former life, rather than reſpecting the Majeſty of an Emperor.

When he came into the field where a battel was fought, and ſome of his train loathed and abhorred the putrified corruption of the dead bodies, he ſtuck not to hearten and encourage them with this curſed ſpeech, *Optimè olere occiſum hoſtem, & melius civem*, That an enemy ſlain had a very good ſmell, but a Citizen far better.

[That was alſo a wicked ſpeech of *Charles* the ninth of *France*, at the *Pariſian* maſſacre, when beholding the dead carcaſſes, he ſaid that the ſmell of a dead enemy was good.]

He baniſhed from *Rome* and *Italy* all the judicial Aſtrologers called Mathematicians, becauſe they had ſaid, that his reign ſhould not endure one year to an end.

Nulla re contemtiorem ſe fecit Vitellius, *quam ignavia & luxuria.* Bœcleri *Diſſertatio Politica.*

If

If he could have forborn his riotous living, or uſed any moderation therein, covetouſneſs was a crime in him not to be feared, but he was ſhamefully given to his belly without all order or meaſure; *Epularum fœda & inexplebilis libido*, ſaith *Tacitus*: for which purpoſe there were daily brought out of *Rome* and *Italy*, *Irritamenta Gulæ*, all provocations of Gluttony. The high-waies from both the Seas ſounded of nothing elſe but of Caterers, and Purveyors; the greateſt men in the City were ſpent and conſumed in providing of Cates for the banquets; the Cities themſelves were waſted.

Prorſus ſi luxuriam temperaret, avaritiam non timeres. Tacit. *l.* 2. *Hiſt.*

Homo profundæ gulæ. Sueton.

Ad vos deinde tranſeo, quorum profunda & inſatiabilis gula, hinc maria ſcrutatur, hinc terras. Seneca Ep. 89.

The Soldiers grew worſe, and degenerated from labour and vertue, partly by turning themſelves to pleaſures, and partly through the contemptibleneſs of the Commander.

He would eat four meals a day, breakfaſt, Dinner, Supper, and Rere-banquet, or after Supper; being able to bear them all very well: he uſed to vomit * ordinarily. His manner was to ſend word that he would break his faſt with one friend, dine with another, and all in one day; and every one of thoſe refections when it ſtood them leaſt, coſt them 3235 l. ſterling. But the moſt notorious and memorable ſupper above all other, was that which his brother made for a welcome at his firſt coming to *Rome*; at which were ſerved up at the Table before him two thouſand

5 Saith *Eutropius.*

* It was an ordinary practiſe among them.

Epulas quas toto orbe conquirunt, nec concoquere dignantur. Seneca.

Suetonius calls it an Adventitious Supper.

Eutropius. Sueton.

ſeveral diſhes of Fiſh, the moſt dainty and choiceſt that could be had, and ſeven thouſand fowl.

His meats were not touched in groſs, but an eye only of this bird, or a tongue of that Fiſh were taſted, that the ſpoils of many might be taken at one meal.

Yet himſelf ſurpaſſed this ſumptuous feaſt at the dedication of the platter, which for its huge capacity he uſed to call the *Target of Minerva*. In this he blended together the Livers of Guilt-heads, the delicate brains of Pheaſants and Peacocks, the tongues of Phœnicopters, the tender ſmall guts of Sea-Lampries ſent as far as from the *Carpathian* Sea, and the ſtraights of *Spain*, by his Captains over Gallies.

Phœnicopterus is a water fowl haunting lakes and fens, and the river *Nilus*, as *Heſiod* writeth. The feathers be of colour red, or purple, whereof it taketh the name, and the tongue is a moſt dainty and pleaſant morſel.

All gluttons to this day paſs under his name.

For the making of this Charger there was a furnace built of purpoſe in the field. *Mucianus* (after the death of *Vitellius*) alluding to this monſtrous platter, and ripping up his whole life, upbraided the memorial of him in theſe very terms, calling his exceſs that way, *Patinarum paludes*, Platters as broad as Pools or Ponds.

Tacitus l. 2. Hiſt.

Nunquam ita ad curas intentus, ut voluptatis oblivisceretur. He was never ſo intentively addicted to ſerious affairs, that he would forget his paſtimes.

In

In his Train all was disorderly and full of drunkenness, more like to Wakes and Feasts of *Bacchus*, than to a Camp where Discipline should be.

Apud Vitellium omnia indispositа, temulenta, pervigiliis ac Bacchanalibus, quam disciplinæ & castris propiora. Tacit. *l.* 2. *Hist.*

He was forward enough to put to death any man; he killed Noble men, and his School-fellows. He delivered *Blæsus* over to the Executioner to suffer death, but straightwaies called him back again; and when all that were by praised him for his Clemency, he commanded the said party to be killed before his face, saying withall, *Velle se pascere oculos*, that he would feed his eies with seeing his death. At the execution of another he caused two of his Sons to bear him company, because they presumed to entreat for their Fathers sake.

Iste mente crudelis, avaruſq; cum profusione. Aurel. Vict. *Audita est sævissima Vitellii vox, qui se pavisse oculos spectata inimici morte jactavit.*

A Gentleman of *Rome* being haled away to take his death, he cryed aloud unto him, Sir, I have made you heir; then he compelled him to bring forth his writing-Tables concerning his last Will, and so soon as he read therein, that a freed man of the Testators was nominated fellow-heir with him, he commanded both Master and man to be killed.

Tacit. *Hist. l.* 3.

Sueton.

He was suspected also to have consented to his own Mothers death.

Impar curis gravioribus, saith *Tacitus* of him, he was unmeet to weild weighty affairs.

The Empire was conferred upon him by thoſe that knew him not, and yet never man found ſo conſtant good will of his Soldiers by vertuous means, as he did with all his cowardly ſloth.

Tacit. l. 3. *Hiſt.* *Tanta torpedo invaſerat animum, ut ſi Principem eum fuiſſe cæteri non meminiſſent, ipſe obliviſceretur.*

So great a ſenceleſneſs did poſſeſs his mind, that if other men had not remembred that he had been a Prince, (and therefore was not to look for ſecurity in a private eſtate) he himſelf would quickly have forgotten it.

Tacit. l. 2. *Hiſt.* *A contumelia quàm à laude propius fuerit, poſt Vitellium eligi.*

It was more a diſgrace than a praiſe, to be choſen after *Vitellius*.

He uſed no other defences againſt the ruine which approched him, but only to keep out the memory and report of it with fortification of mirth and ſottiſhneſs, that ſo he might be delivered from the pains of preſerving himſelf. *Præterita, inſtantia, futura, pari oblivione dimiſerat; mirum apud ipſum de bello ſilentium, probibiti per civitatem ſermones*, &c. Tacit. *Hiſt. lib.* 3.

Tacit. l. 3. *Hiſt.* *Ita formatæ Principis aures, ut aſpera quæ utilia, nec quidquam niſi jucundum & læſurum acciperet.*

The Princes ears were ſo framed, that he accounted all ſharp that was wholſome, and liked of nothing but that which

which was preſently pleaſant, and afterwards hurtful.

Amicitias dum magnitudine munerum, non conſtantia morum continere putat, meruit magis quàm habuit. Tacit. l. 3. Hiſt.

He deſerved rather than found faithful friends, becauſe he ſought them more by great gifts than vertuous behaviour.

Statim privatus Imperio, qui privatus ſemper fuit non Princeps.

Emanuelis Theſauri Cæſares.

At the laſt he was ſlain in an ignominious manner, having many ſcornful indignities offered unto him both in deed and word; they drew his head backward by the buſh of the hair (as condemned Malefactors are wont to be ſerved) and a ſwords point was ſet under his chin, to the end he might ſhew his face, and not hold it down while ſome pelted him with dung and dirty mire: others called him with open mouth, Incendiary or Firebrand, becauſe he burnt the Capitol; and *Patinarium* or *Platter-Knight*, for his Gormandizing, and great Platter; and ſome of the common ſort twitted him with the deformities of his body: being all mangled with many ſmall ſtrokes, he was killed in the end. *Numeroſis ictibus confoſſus interiit.* Suetonius.

He was killed by *Veſpaſians* Soldiers upon the ſtairs *Gemoniæ*, where he ſuffered *Veſpaſians* brother to be ſlain.

He was ſlain * in the 57. year of his age, when he had reigned eight months and five daies, ſay ‖ *Joſephus*, and † *Euſebius*; eight months and ten daies, ſaith * *Tertul-*

* Aurel. Vict. *Tacitus.* *Suetonius.* *Eutropius.*

‖ l. 5. of the wars of the Jews, c. 13.

† Chron.

* *Tertullian.* ‖ *Tacitus* reporteth, that in thoſe few months wherein he reigned, he had waſted nine hundred millions of Seſterces, which amounteth to ſeven millions thirty one thouſand two hundred and fifty pounds ſterling; and *Joſephus* * thinketh if he had lived longer, the whole revenues of the Empire had not been ſufficient to have maintained his Gluttony.

* *Lib. adverſus Judæos*

‖ *Hiſt.* 2. 27. *Ipſe abundè ratus ſi præſentibus frueretur, nec in longum conſultans, novies mille ſeſtertium pauciſſimis menſibus intervertiſſe creditur.*

* *Octo menſes ac dies quinque potitus Imperio, jugulatur in media Urbe; quem ſi vivere diutius contigiſſet, ejus Luxuriæ ſatis eſſe Imperium non potuiſſet.* Joſeph. *de Bello Judaico.*

Flavius

Flavius Veſpaſianus.

GEntis *Flaviæ in rem Romanam merita tam proſperos habuere ſucceſſus, ut duodecimum intra annum Veſpaſiani & Titi induſtria concuſſum undique & turbatum imperii cor in meliorem ſtatum convaluerit.* Bœclerus.

Tertius Divus, Secundus Auguſtus, *primus pius.*
Emanuelis Theſauri Cæſares.

Princeps per omnia fortunæ, & humani Eutropius.
actus moriſque argumenta, vel jactatus vel exercitus. Bœcleri *Diſſertatio Politica.*
Princeps obſcurè quidem natus, ſed optimis comparandus, privata vita illuſtris.

He

He was of a middle ſtature, well ſet, his limbs compact and ſtrongly made, *vultu veluti nitentis*, he looked ſtill as if he ſtrained hard for a ſtool, whereupon a Buffon brake a pretty jeſt on him; for when *Veſpaſian* ſeemed to requeſt him to ſay ſomething of him as well as of others in the company, *Dicam, inquit, cum ventrem exonerare deſieris.* I will let you alone, ſaith he, till you have done your buſineſs.

Suetonius. That ſaying of *Martial* agreeth with this. *Nam faciem duram Phœbe cacantis habes. Vir multorum ſalium.* Lodovic. Viv.

He was very pleaſant and facetious himſelf; for being advertiſed by *Florus* to pronounce * *Plauſtra* rather than *Ploſtra*, he ſaluted him the next morning by the name of *Flaurus.*

* A word in Lat. that ſignifies Carts or Wains. *Convitiorum plauſtra.*

When the apparition of a Comet or blazing ſtarr was thought to portend his death, he replyed merrily, that the buſhy ſtar (*Stella crinita*) noted not him but the *Parthian* King, *Ipſe enim comatus eſt, ego vero calvus*; for, he weareth buſhy locks, but I am bald. But he dyed a little while after, and by his example (ſaith *Keckerman*) warned men to forbare jeſting at Gods great works and Prodigies.

Sueton. Aurel. Vict.

Flava hæc Cæſaries Flavi, eſt tibi noxia Cæſar, Odit enim rufum Stella Comata caput.

Emanuelis Theſauri Cæſares.

Syſtem. Phyſ. l. 6.

An Oxe having caſt off his yoke, ran furiouſly into the room where he ſate at Supper, where affrighting his attendants from him, he ſtraight proſtrates himſelf before his feet, as if he had been weary, offering his neck to his clemency. *Suetonius.*

A preſignification of his advancement. Being elected Emperor, it is reported of him, that he cured one deſperately blind by ſpitting upon his eyes *Tacit Hiſt.* l. 4. *Suetonius.*

When

When he came to the Empire, the Exchequer was ſo impoveriſhed, that he proteſted in open Senate, that he wanted to ſettle the Common-wealth 40 Millions of *Seſtertiums*; which proteſtations (ſaith *Suetonius*) ſeemed probable, *Quia & malè partis optimè uſus eſt.*

He fought 30 Battels in Britain, took 20 Townes, and adjoyned the Iſle of *Wight* to the obedience of the Roman Empire.

When a certain gallant youth ſmelling hot of ſweet balms and perfumes, came unto him to give thanks for an office obtained at his hands, after a ſtrange countenance ſhewing his diſlike of him, he gave him alſo in words a moſt bitter check, ſaying, *I would rather thou hadſt ſtunk of Garlick*; and ſo revoked his Letters Patents for the grant. *Maluiſſem allium obolu-iſſes.* Suetonius.

He never carried in his mind, nor revenged diſpleaſures done unto him. He married the daughter of *Vitellius*, his enemy, into a moſt noble houſe, gave unto her a rich Dowry withall, and furniture accordingly.

He was made *Totus ex clementia* (as the Hiſtorian tells us) yet for all that, *Machinationes nefariorum aſſiduas expertus eſt*, He found daily treacheries attempted againſt him. Suetonius. *Placidiſſimæ bonitatis.* Eutropius.

Juſtis etiam ſupplicijs illachrymavit & ingemuit. Sueton.

He was ſo compaſſionate a Prince, that he

he was wont to ſigh and weep, even for them that were condignly puniſhed.

Eutropius.

An innocent perſon was not puniſhed but when he was abſent, and not aware thereof, or at leaſtwiſe unwilling thereto, and deceived.

But he was ſevere towards *Julius Sabinus*, who in tims paſt ſaid he was *Cæſar*; and taking up arms, was at laſt conquered and brought to *Rome*. His wife ſpake to *Veſpaſian* in his behalf, pleading that he had two ſons of her; and ſupplicating to him for mercy to her husband and her ſelf, uſed theſe words, *Ego, o Cæſar, hos in monumento peperi aluique, ut plures tibi ſupplices eſſemus*: By which ſpeech, although ſhe drew tears from him and thoſe that were preſent, yet ſhe could not procure her Husbands pardon. *Dion.*

Joſephus, l. 5. of the wars of the Jews, c. 10.

The Soldiers elected him Emperor, and requeſted him to preſerve the Empire being in great danger to be loſt. Yet he (though he had been alwaies careful for the good of the Common-wealth) refuſed to be Emperor, deeming himſelf indeed to have deſerved it, but rather chuſing to live a private life, wherein was ſecurity, than in the height of fortune and honour with perpetual danger. The Captains were moſt earneſt becauſe he refuſed it, and the Soldiers flocked about him with drawn ſwords, threatning his death except he would conſent to live as he deſerved; yet he ſtrove a long time to avert

their

their determination, being loth to be Emperor; at laſt ſeeing he could not avoid it, he accepted their offer.

Solus ad Imperium evaſit, non invaſit,
Solus è vita diſceſſit, non fugit.
Emanuelis Theſauri Cæſares.
Dignitatem Imperio dedit cum accepit.
Id. ibid.

He comforted his Soldiers with theſe and ſuch like ſpeeches, I will expoſe my ſelf to all dangers with you, and go firſt to fight, and come laſt from fight. *Joſephus*, l. 4. of the wars of the Jews, c. 2. *Tacitus* l. 2. Hiſt.

Ipſe Veſpaſianus milites adire, hortari, bonos laude, ſegnes exemplo incitare ſæpius quam coercere; vitia magis amicorum quam virtutes diſſimulans.

He would go in his own perſon, and encourage the Soldiers, inciting the good by praiſe, the ſlow by example rather than correction; he was more ready to conceal the Vices of his friends, than the vertues.

It was a worthy report which *Pliny* gave of him, if he flattered him not, to whom being Emperor he wrote thus; *Nec quicquam in te mutavit fortunæ amplitudo, niſi ut prodeſſe tantundem poſſes & velles.* Greatneſſe and Majeſty have changed nothing in you but this, that your power to do good ſhould be anſwerable to your will.

Solus omnium ante ſe Principum, in melius mutatus eſt. *Tacit.* l. 1. Hiſt.

The only Prince before his time which changed to the better; for after him, *Titus* his Son changed alſo the ſame way.

Prorſus

Prorſus ſi avaritia abeſſet, antiquis ducibus par. Tacitus.

A vigilant Warrior, and in all reſpects, ſet avarice aſide, comparable to the Commanders of ancient time.

Sueton, *Homo turpiter avidus.* Eraſ. *Adag.*

Sola eſt in quo merito culpetur pecuniæ cupiditas.

The only thing for which he might worthily be blamed was covetouſneſs.

He not only called for arrerages due in *Galba*'s time, but raiſed new Tributes, and laid upon the Provinces more grievous impoſitions, doubling them in ſome places.

Suetonius.

Negotiationes vel privato pudendas propalam exercuit.

He did negotiate and deal in certain Trades, which it was a ſhame for a private perſon to uſe: buying up and engroſſing ſome Commodities at a cheap hand, that afterwards he might vend them at higher rates. Neither did he ſpare to ſell Honours to ſuch as ſued for them, or abſolutions to ſuch as were accuſed, whether they proved guilty or not. He was thought of ſet purpoſe to have made choice of the moſt greedy proling Officers he could any where find out, and to have advanced them to the higheſt place, that being thereby grown rich, he might condemn their perſons, and confiſcate their goods. And it was commonly ſaid, that he uſed theſe men as ſpunges, *Quod quaſi & ſiccos madefaceret, & exprimeret humentes*; becauſe he did wet them well when they were

Suetonius.

Not unlike to this was that ſpeech of *Diogenes, Dixit Dionyſium amicis uti pro vaſculis, quæ dum plena ſunt evacuat, & abjicit vacua.*

were dry; and preſſe them hard when they were wet.

Some write that he was by nature moſt covetous, and an old neat-herd upbraided him once therewith; who being at his hands denied freedom without paying for it (which he humbly craved of him now inveſted in the Empire) cried out with a loud voyce, *Vulpem pilum mutare non mores*, that the Fox might change his hair but not his qualities. Suetonius.

Quicquid infixum & ingenitum eſt, leniri poteſt arte, non vinci. Seneca.

He laid an impoſition upon urine, and being by his Son *Titus* put in mind of the baſeneſs of it, he took a piece of money received for the uſe, and putting it to his Sons noſe, demanded of him whether he was offended with the ſmell or no, *Atqui (inquit) è lotio eſt*, and yet (quoth he) it cometh of urine: *Unde* Juvenalis, Sueton. Sat. 14.

—— *Lucri bonus eſt odor è re*
Qualibet.

Adquod alludens etiam Ammian. Marcel. *dixit,*
Et lucrum ex omni odorantes occaſione.

There are ſome of a contrary opinion, that he was driven to ſpoyl, to pill and poll of neceſſity, even for extream want, both in the common Treaſury, and alſo in his own Exchequer; whereof he gave ſome teſtimony in the beginning of his Empire, profeſſing (as was ſaid before) that there was need of forty millions to ſet the State upright again: which opinion (ſaith *Suetonius*) ſeems to ſound more near unto the truth, becauſe the money

Infirmus, ut quidam prave putant, adverſus pecuniam cum ſatis conſtet ærarii inopia & clade urbium, ne que novas eum, neque poſtea habitas vectigalium penſiones exquiſiviſſe, Aurel. Vict.

by him ill gotten he uſed and beſtowed very well, for he was moſt liberal to all ſorts of men.

Reſtitutionem Capitolii aggreſſus, ruderibus purgandis manus primus admovit, ac ſuo collo quædam extulit. Suetonius.

In the third building of the Capitol, *Veſpaſian* carried the firſt basket of earth, after him the Nobility did the like, to make the people more forward in the ſervice; and perhaps the cuſtom of laying the firſt ſtone in a building, hath from hence, if not beginning, yet growth.

Sueton. Aurel. Vict.

Oportet Epiſcopum concionantem mori. Jewel.

It was his ſpeech, *Oportet Imperatorem ſtantem mori*, An Emperor ought to dye ſtanding. And likewiſe he ſaid at his death, *Ut puto Deus fio, id eſt, morior; nam poſt mortem Cæſares referebantur in numerum deorum.* Me thinks (quoth he) I am a deifying, and growing to be a god.

Aurel. Vict.

Sueton.

Annum agens vitæ abſque uno ſeptuageſimum interiit.

He lived threeſcore and 9 years, 7 months, and 7 daies over.

He reigned 2 years, ſaith *Euſebius.*

Titus

Titus Veſpaſianus.

FOR his natural goodneſs and noble diſpoſition, he was called *Amor & deliciæ humani generis*, The lovely darling, and delightful joy of mankind. *Tantum illi ad promerendam omnium voluntatem, vel ingenii, vel artis, vel fortunæ ſuperfuit.* Sueton.

Speed ſaith as much of *Henry* the 5th, whom he compareth to *Titus*. *Edgar Etheling*, *Englands* darling.

So fully was he either endued with good nature and diſpoſition, or enriched with skill and cunning, or elſe graced with fortunes favour.

Auguſtin *De Civit. Dei. lib.* 5. *cap.* 21. calls him *Suaviſſimum Principem*, a moſt ſweet Prince.

He was learned in the Greek and Latine tongues, and in moſt excellent writing.

Yet God made him a terrible ſcourge to the Nation of the Jews, who forſook the Lord Jeſus, and preferred *Cæſar*; for as our Saviour propheſied concerning *Jeruſalem*, that a ſtone ſhould not be left upon a ſtone, *Matth.* 24. 2. So it was fulfilled forty years after his Aſcenſion, by *Veſpaſian* the Emperor, and his Son *Titus*, ſay *Euſebius* and *Joſephus*. And by that which followeth in the ſame *Ch.* 21. *v.* he meaneth the tribulation the Jews were to endure at the ſiege, and ſurpriſal of *Jeruſalem* by *Veſpaſian* and *Titus*. In the time of which ſiege the Jews were oppreſſed with a grievous famine, in which their food was old ſhooes, old leather, old hay, and the dung of beaſts. There dyed partly of the ſword, and partly of the famine, eleven hundred thouſand of the poorer ſort; two thouſand in one night were embowelled, ſix thouſand were burned in a Porch of the Temple. The whole City was ſacked and burnt, and laid level to the ground; and ninety ſeven thouſand taken captives, and applyed to baſe and miſerable ſervice.

Dr. *Sclat.*

Mr. *Perkins.*

Veſpaſian brake into their City at Cedron, where they took Chriſt, on the ſame feaſt day that Chriſt was taken, he whipped them where they whipped Chriſt, he ſold twenty Jews for a penny, as they ſold Chriſt for thirty pence. B. *Andr. Cat.*

Suum ſcripſit nomen cum urbem delevit.
Emanuelis Theſauri Cæſares.

So many of the Jews were crucifyed, that by relation of their own *Joſephus de bello Judaico lib.* 6. *c.* 12.) there remained no more ſpace to ſet croſſes in, nor any more croſſes to crucify bodies upon.

At

At the very firſt, even in his child-hood there ſhone forth in him gifts both of body and mind, and the ſame more and more ſtill by degrees, as he grew in years.

He was therefore ſickly, becauſe his Nurſe was ſo.

Ingenium quantæcunque fortunæ capax, decor oris cum quadam Majeſtate. *Tacitus l. 2. Hiſt.*

A perſon capable of any dignity, were it never ſo great; of a goodly preſence and countenance, wherein was ſeated no leſs Majeſty than favour and beauty. *Forma egregia, & cui non minus auctoritatis ineſſet quam gratiæ.*

His ſtature was not tall, and his belly bare out ſomewhat with the moſt. He had a ſingular memory, and was very docible; he was moſt skilful in handling his weapon, and withall a paſſing good Horſeman. He was *facilis ad extemporalitatem uſque.* He was of a prompt and ready wit, and would have ſpoken well *ex tempore*; He was alſo skilful in Muſick; he could write with cyphers, and by artificial characters, both very faſt and very fair, ſtriving by way of ſport and mirth with his own Clerks, whether he or they could write faſteſt: He was able to expreſs and imitate what hand ſoever he had ſeen, and would often ſay, that he could have been a notable forger and counterfeiter of writings. Sueton. *Facundiſſimus, bellicoſiſſimus, moderatiſſimus.* Eutropius. Sueton. Sueton.

Suo quàm Patris Imperio modeſtior. *Tacit. l. 2. Hiſt.*

Whiles he was a private perſon, he behaved

haved himſelf not altogether ſo well as when he was Emperor.

Exuit animum cum purpuram induit.
Lupus invaſit regnum, evaſit Paſtor.
Emanuelis Theſauri Cæſares.

Berenice. Dion. & Joſeph.

His youthful affections were ſettled ſomewhat upon *Berenice* the Queen of *Jewry*; notwithſtanding in no ſuch degree that it was any hinderance to his honourable actions.

Suetonius. *Convivia inſtituit jucunda magis quam profuſa.*

The Feaſts which he made were pleaſant merriments rather than laviſh and ſumptuous.

Suetonius.

No groſs vice could be found in him, but many excellent vertues.

Neminem à ſe dimiſit triſtem.

He never diſmiſſed any Petitioner with a tear in his eye, or a heavy heart; and when his Domeſtical ſervants about his Perſon would ſeem to tell him that he promiſed more than he was able to perform; his ſaying was, *Non oportet quenquam à ſermone Principis triſtem diſcedere.* No man ought to depart from the ſpeech of a Prince, ſad and diſcontented.

Sueton: *Hadrianus Cæſar* ſaid, it was troubleſome to him if he ſaw any ſad.

Calling to mind one time as he ſate at Supper, that he had done nothing for any man that day, he uttered this memorable and praiſe-worthy Apophthegm, *Amici, diem perdidi.* My Friends, I have loſt a day.

Aurel. Vict. Sueton. Eutropius. Or rather it muſt be read (ſaith *Caſaub.*) *Amici, hodie diem perdidi.*

If he had not beſtowed ſome benefit upon one or other, he was wont to ſay (ſaith *Marerus*) *Hodie non imperavi quia nemini beneſeci.*

His

His Rule and Government was merciful, he received no accuſation againſt thoſe who were reported to have ſpoken evil of him, ſaying, *Ego cum nihil faciam dignum propter quod contumelia afficiar, mendacia nihil curo.* When I ſhall do nothing worthy of blame, I care not for lies.

He ſaid, he would rather die himſelf than put others to death. He proceeded no further againſt two noblemen convicted for affecting and aſpiring to the Empire, than to admoniſh them to deſiſt and give over, ſaying, that Sovereign Power was the gift of Deſtiny and Divine providence; if they were Petitioners for any thing elſe, he promiſed to give it unto them. *Perituru[m] ſe potius quam perditurum adjurans.* Sueton. *Suetonius. Eutropius. Aurel. Vict.*

He would not endure to kill, or ſequeſter and confine his Brother *Domitian* (though he never ceaſed to lay wait for his life) but ſtill made him partner with him in his Sovereign Government, and often with tears exhorted him to mutual love. *Aurel. Vict. Suetonius.*

There fell out in his daies ſome heavy accidents; a fire in the City of *Rome*, which laſted three daies and three nights; and a grievous Peſtilence, wherein there dyed ten thouſand a day; and *Veſuvius* a mountain in *Campania* flamed with great horrour; *Pliny* the natural Hiſtorian then Admiral of the Roman Navie, deſirous to diſcover the reaſon, was ſuffocated with the ſmoak thereof, as his Nephew witneſſ- *Tacitus. Sueton. Aurel. Vict.*

Pliny. l. 6. Epiſt. 16.

eth in an Epiſtle of his to *Cornelius Tacitus*, *Am: Marcellinus* obſerveth, that the aſhes thereof tranſported in the Air, obſcured all Europe; others ſay, that they darkned the Sun.

Joſeph. l. 6. c. 2 of the Wars of the Jews. From his wonderful eſcape at the walls of *Jeruſalem*, *Joſephus* collects, *Imperatorum pericula Deum curare*; That God takes care of Princes in their danger. *Ibid.*

He was a valiant Soldier; going once to eſpy the enemy, and not to fight, notwithſtanding that an infinite number of darts and arrows were ſhot at him, and he had no Armour at all, yet received he not one wound, but all paſt him, as though upon purpoſe every one had ſtrove to have miſt him. And he with his ſword made way, and cut many upon the face that oppoſed themſelves againſt him, and ſo they falling down, he with his horſe paſt over them. The Jews ſeeing *Titus* his valour, exhorted one another to ſet upon him, but whither ſoever he turned, the Jews fled and would not abide by it.

Suetonius. Eutropius.

In the laſt aſſault of Jeruſalem, he ſlew twelve enemies that defended the wall, with juſt ſo many arrows ſhot, and won the City with great joy, and favourable applauſe of all his Soldiers.

Joſephus de Bell. Jud. l. 6. c. 14. 7. & 10.

He being to ſee that executed which Chriſt foretold ſhould happen to Jeruſalem, ſtretched forth his hands, and called Heaven and Earth to witneſs in great bitterneſs, that he was not to blame that the Jews periſhed in ſuch ſort, but they themſelves; and would not by any means that fire ſhould be ſet on the Temple. Comparing the deſolation of Jeruſalem

ſalem with the beauty and goodly buildings that were before it was deſtroyed, he lamented and pitied the overthrow thereof, ſaith *Joſephus*. L. 7. of the wars of the Jews. c. 24.

It is likely that he would have carried a milder hand upon the Jews his Priſoners, after his ſacking the City of Jeruſalem, than to caſt ſo many thouſand of them to the Lions, and other beaſts to be devoured, as he did on the birth-day of his Brother *Domitian*, but that the heavy curſe of God which boiled againſt that Nation, did urge his gentle and calm nature to bring them to deſtruction.

Illud adagium Feſtina lentè, arridebat duobus Imperatoribus Romanis, omnium facilè laudatiſſimis, Auguſto & Tito; quorum utrique ſingularis quædam aderat animi magnitudo, cum incredibili quadam lenitate facilitateque conjuncta. Eraſ. *in Adag.*

He did ſtamp in his Coin a Dolphin and an Anchor, with this Impreſs, *Sat cito ſi ſat bene.* A Dolphin out-ſtrips the ſhip, that's *ſoon enough*; an Anchor ſtayeth the ſhip, that's *well enough*. A Dolphin and Anchor, *Soon enough if well enough.*

It was ſaid of him, *Abſtinuit alieno, ut ſi quis unquam.* If ever any man abſtained from that which was not his own, he was the man. Suetonius.

Though he was the mirrour of men among the Heathen, yet he was loth to depart out of this world; for being carried in his Horſe-litter, and knowing that he muſt die, he looked upwards towards Heaven, and complained very pitiouſly, that his life ſhould be taken from him who had not deſerved to die, for he knew not (he ſaid) of any ſin that ever he committed but only one.

Multum conqueſtus, eripi ſibi vitam immerenti, neque enim exiare ullem ſuum factum pœnitendum, excepto duntaxat uno.

Suetonius

Whether his over familiar acquaintance with his Brothers wife *Domitia*, as *Sueton.* or with the Queen *Berenice*, as *Speed*, is uncertain.

Senatus tantas mortuo gratias egit, laudeſque congeſſit, quantas ne vivo quidem unquam atque præſenti. Suetonius. Aurel. Vict. Eutropius.

He lived 39 years five months, 25 daies, ſaith *Carion.*

Suetonius writes as if he had dyed of a natural death, but *Aurel. Vict.* ſaith, he was poyſoned by his Brother *Domitian*, *Titus à Domitiano leporis marini vi peremptus.* Cæl. Rhod. *Lect. Antiq. l.* 6. *c.* 30.

Morte præventus eſt, majore hominum damno quam ſuo.

He was cut ſhort and prevented by death, to the greater loſs of Mankind than of himſelf, ſaith *Suetonius.*

The Senate gave him more thanks being dead, than ever they did living and preſent.

His death was much lamented, ſo that they call'd him generally, *Delicias publicas*; and wept for him as if the world had been deprived of a perpetual Protector. *Tantus luctus eo mortuo publicus fuit, ut omnes tanquam in propria doluerint orbitate.*

He dyed in the 42. year of his age, ſaith *Suetonius*, 41 ſay *Aurel. Victor.* and *Eutropius.*

When he had reigned two years, two months and twenty daies, ſay *Suetonius*, *Aurel. Vict. Carion*; eight months, ſaith *Eutropius.*

Flavius

Flavius Domitianus.

HE was called *Domitian* from his Mother *Domitilla*, as *Titus* (his Brother) was called *Vespasian* from his Father.

Titus cognomine paterno dictus Vespasianus, alter frater cognomine materno à Domitilla Domitianus est appellatus. Casaub.

He was Associate to his Brother *Titus* in government during his life, and after his death was his Successor.

Perceiving many of his Predecessors to be hated, asked one, how he might so rule as not to be hated? the Party answered, *Tu fac contra*, Do thou contrary to that they have done.

Yet he neither resembled his Father *Vespasian* nor his Brother *Titus*. *Neroni, aut* Eutropius.

aut Caligulæ, aut Tiberio ſimilior, quam Patri vel Fratri ſuo.

He was tall of ſtature, his countenance modeſt, and given much to redneſs; his eyes full and great, but his ſight very dim. He was fair and of comely preſence, eſpecially in his youth; all his body was well ſhaped throughout, excepting his feet, the toes whereof were of the ſhorteſt; afterwards he became disfigured, and blemiſhed with baldneſs, with a fat grand panch, and ſlender ſhanks.

In the beginning of his Empire his manner was to retire himſelf daily into a ſecret place for one hour, and there to do nothing elſe but catch flyes, and with the ſharp point of a bodkin prick them through; in ſo much as when one enquired whether any body were with *Cæſar* within? *Criſpus* made anſwer not impertinently, *Ne Muſca quidam*, No, not ſo much as a Flye.

Terribili armatus ferula volitantia Cæſar
Agmina muſcarum provocat, urget, agit.
Emanuelis Theſauri Cæſares.

Hoſtibus muſca, muſcis Hoſtis ad fuit.

And becauſe he commanded the Vines to be cut down, he addes,

Scilicet humano ſe poſtquam ſanguine Cæſar
Proluit, iſta ſitit pocula, vina fugit.

In the Adminiſtration of the Empire, he behaved himſelf for a good while variable as one made of an equal mixture and temper of Vice and Vertues, until at length

Licet patris fratriſque diſſimilis memoriam nominis ſui in expiabili deteſtatione perfudit, tamen receptiſſima inclaruit lege, qua minaciter interdixerat, ne intra terminos juriſdictionis Romanæ Cæſaris quiſquam puerum quod ni contigiſſet, quis eorum ferret examina, quorum paucitas difficile toleratur? Am. Marcel. l. 15.

Stylis ridicule remotis omnibus, muſcarum agmina perſequebatur. Aurel. Vict.

Hippocrates reckons up this for one ſign of Melancholy, when men catch flyes; *Muſcas captare atræ bilis indicium.* Sueton.

length he turned his vertues also into vices.

He neglected all Liberal Studies in the beginning of his Empire, albeit he took order to repair the Libraries consumed with fire, sending as far as * *Alexandria* for copies of Books.

* At *Alexandria* in Egypt was that famous Library of King *Ptolomeus Philadelphus*, & the other *Ptolomies* Progenitors, containing the number well near of 700000 Books, Aul. Gel. *Noct. Attic. l. 7. c. 1.*

His ordinary speech was not unelegant, sometimes he would deliver Apophthegms; as for example, he wished, That he had been as fair and well-favoured as *Metius* did think himself to be: another time he said, *That the condition of Princes was most miserable, who could not be credited touching a Conspiracy plainly detected, unless they were first slain.*

Vellem tam formosus esse quàm Metius sibi videtur.

Conditionem Principum miserrimam aiebat, quibus de conjuratione comperta non crederetur, nisi occisis. Sueton.

This speech was used also by *Adrian*, *Misera conditio Imperatorum, quibus, de affectata tyrandine, nisi occisis non potest credi.* Vulcat. Gallic. *in Avidio Cassio.*

He had no affection to bear Arms, or wield weapons, but delighted especially to shoot Arrows. He would drive his Arrows point blank, so just against the Palm of a mans right hand, standing a far off, and holding it forth stretched open for a mark, as they should all directly passe through the voyd spaces between the fingers, and do him no harm at all.

Sagittarum tam doctus fuit, ut inter patentes digitos extentæ manus viri procul positæ spicula ejus transvolarent. Aurel. Vict.

During *Suetonius.*

Simile quid audivi à fide dignis & αὐτόπταις factum de duce Brundewizensi, qui suis pedissequis ac pueris honorariis imperavit, inter digitorum extensorum intervalla retinerent dalerum Imperialem, quem sumpto scolopo minore, è patentibus digitis globulo innoxiè exemit. Paulus Voetius *in Herodiani Marcum & Commodum. p.* 178. *&* 179.

During his abode at *Alba*, many have seen him shoot at an hundred wild beasts at a time, and purposely so to hit some of them in the head, that his shafts appeared there like a pair of horns.

It was rumoured abroad, that in his Infancy Dragons were found about him in manner of a Guard, which is but a Fable; for he himself, who never derogated from himself, was wont to report but of one Serpent which was seen in his Chamber.

Tacitus. l. 11. Annal.

When he was mounted once to the Imperial state, he made his boast in the very Senate, that it was he who had given unto his Father and Brother both the Empire, and they had but delivered it up to him again.

Suetonius.

Martial writeth thus to him in his Epigrams.

Magna licet toties tribuas, majora daturus
Dona, Ducum victor, victor & ipse tui:
Diligeris populo non propter premia, Cæsar;
Propter te populus, præmia, Cæsar, amat.

He was precise and industrious in ministring Justice, he reserved many times definitive sentences given for favour, and obtained by flattery; he did so chastise those that were faulty in that kind, that the Officers were never more temperate, or just in their places.

He

He repreſſed falſe informations, and ſharply puniſhed ſuch informers, uſing this ſaying, *Princeps qui delatores non caſtigat, irritat.* The Prince that chaſtened not Promoters, ſetteth them on to promote.

At the firſt he ſo abhorred all Bloodſhed and ſlaughter, that he purpoſed to publiſh an Edict, forbidding to kill and ſacrifice any Oxe; and he ſcarce gave the leaſt ſuſpicion of Covetouſneſs. But he continued not long in this ſtrain, but fell after both to Cruelty and Avarice.

He was not only cruel, but very ſubtil and crafty in cloking of his cruelty.

Nunquam triſtiorem ſententiam ſine præfatione clementiæ pronuntiavit, ut non aliud jam certius atrocis exitus ſignum eſſet, quam Principis lenitas. He never pronounced any heavy bloody Sentence without ſome preamble and preface of clemency, ſo that there was not now a ſurer ſigne of ſome horrible end and concluſion, than a mild beginning and gentle *Exordium.* Suetonius.

It is reported of him, that, *Eum ſe impenſiſſimè diligere ſimulabat, quem maximè interemptum vellet.* He would ſeem to love them moſt, whom he willed leaſt ſhould live.

It was ſufficient, if any deed or word whatſoever was objected againſt any one, to make it high Treaſon againſt the Prince. Inheritances (though they belonged to the greateſt ſtrangers) were held confiſcate, and adjudged to the Emperors Coffers,

Coffers, in caſe but one would come forth & depoſe, that he heard the party deceaſed ſay whiles he lived, that *Cæſar* was his heir.

Sue onius. *Primus Domitianus Dominum ſe & Deum appellari juſſit.* Euſebius *in Chronicis.* Sueton. Eutropius. Aurel. Vict. *Virgil* called *Auguſtus* God, *Deus nobis hæc otia fecit. Unde inſtitutum poſthac, ut ne ſcripto quidem nec ſermone cujuſquam appellaretur aliter.* Suetonius. An Oracle ſignifieth the anſwer of God. *Rom.* 3. 2.

He was the firſt Emperor who commanded himſelf to be called Lord, and God. He ſent out his writs in this form, *Dominus & Deus noſter ſic fieri jubet*, Our Lord and God thus commandeth. Whereupon afterward this order was taken up, that neither in the writing or ſpeech of any man, he ſhould be otherwiſe called.

Edictum Domini Deique noſtri. Martial.

A true fore-runner of his ſucceſſor the Pope, who in the Extravagants (and well it deſerves to be put there) is ſtyled *Dominus Deus noſter Papa*, and his Decrees are ſtyled Oracles.

Dominus meus Unus eſt, Deus omnipotens & æternus. Qui pater patriæ eſt, quomodo Dominus eſt? Sed & gratius nomen eſt pietatis quam poteſtatis; etiam familiæ magis patres, quam Domini vocantur: tanto abeſt, ut Imperator Deus debeat dici, quod non poteſt credi non modo turpiſſima ſed & pernicioſa adulatione Tertul. Apol. 35.

Euſeb. Eccle. Hiſt. l. 3. *c.* 15. *Portio Neronis de crudelitate;* for his cruelty a piece of *Nero. Tertul.* He was reproachfully called by the people bald *Nero*, becauſe he was like him in cruelty but bald.

The ſecond perſecution was under him in the twelth year of his reign; he moſt cruelly perſecuted the Chriſtians, becauſe

Et calvo ſerviret Roma Neroni. Juvenal.

they

they would not give the Title of Lord to any but Christ, nor worship any but God. In this second great persecution, the beloved Disciple of Christ, the Evangelist *John* (when he taught the Church of *Ephesus*) was banished to the Isle of *Patmos* for the Word of God; where he wrote the *Revelation.*

Nec omitti debet in maximis ejus facinoribus, Christianorum vexatio afflictioque. Bœclerus.

Cletus, Nicomedes, Pontia, Theodora, Domicilla were then famous Martyrs.

There were many learned Scholars in his time; *Juvenal, Martial, Valerius Flaccus, Silius Italicus,* Poets: *Epictetus* the Philosopher, and *Apollonius Tyanæus* a famous Magician: *Cornelius Tacitus* the Historian, *Julius Solinus, Quintilian, Josephus* the Writer of Jewish Antiquities.

Bœclerus in his Political Dissertation saith, He was an enemy to learning, punishing Historians for their most true praises of great men. He thought that wise men above others observed and disliked the hainous offences of Tyrants, and would record them.

He was proud like *Nero,* and persecuted innocent Christians as he did.

Tertullian called him *Neronis portionem; Eusebius, hæredem*; the one a part, the other, the Heir of *Nero*: and *Tacitus* puts only this difference between them, that *Nero* indeed commanded cruel murders, but *Domitian* not only commanded them,

In vita Agricolæ.

Nero tantum subtraxit oculos, jussitque scelera, non spectavit.

Præcipua sub Domitiano miseriarum pars erat, videre & aspici.

but beheld them himſelf; and ſo he was *Bis Parricida* (as *Valerius* * *Maximus* ſaith of another) *Concilio prius, iterum ſpectaculo.*

* L. 9. c. 11.

He cauſed the line of *David* to be diligently ſought out, and extinguiſhed, for fear leſt he were yet to come out of the Houſe of *David* which ſhould enjoy the Kingdom.

Valde ſolicitus, quod ſciret ultimum vitæ diem, ſaith *Suetonius*. He was much tortured in mind, becauſe he fore-knew his end. *Sueton.*

He was ſo fearful, that he walked almoſt continually in his Gallery, which he cauſed to be ſet with the ſtone *Phengites*, that by the brightneſs thereof as in a glaſs, (*Plin. l. 36. c. 22.*) he might ſee what was done behind him.

That is admirable which Writers have related concerning *Apollonius Tyanæus*, a *Pythagerick* Philoſopher, and famous Magician, who ſuddenly, as amazed, cried out at *Epheſus* when *Domitian* was ſlain, *O Stephen, ſtrike the Tyrant*: and a little after he ſaid, *It is well, thou haſt ſtruck him, thou haſt wounded him, thou haſt killed him.*

Nactus eſt tandem Domitianus exitum ſuis facinoribus dignum. Bæclerus. He ſaith alſo, *Qui hanc Hiſtoriam cum exitu Commodi Imperatoris comparaverit, non ovum ovo ſimilius reperiet, quam utriuſque tyranni caſum.*

Suetonius. Aurel. Vict. Carion.

As his life was like unto the life of *Nero*, ſo was he not unlike him in his death; for his own Wife *Domitia* and friends conſpired againſt him, and ſlew him: his Body was carried to the grave by Porters, and buried without honour; the Senate of

Rome

Rome alſo decreed, that his name ſhould be raſed, that all his Acts ſhould be reſcinded, and his memorial aboliſhed quite for ever.

He periſhed in the 54th year of his life, about the 15th of his reign. *Aurel. Vict. & Eutropius.*

With whom both *Tacitus* and *Suetonius* end their Hiſtory. *Carion. Chron.*

AN ADVERTISEMENT TO THE READER.

READER, *I know Books have their doom according to thy capacity, and that ſuch are uſually moſt free in cenſuring other mens works, which are leaſt able to publiſh any of their own. But as the Poet ſaith,* Carpere vel noli noſtra, vel ede tua: *Many Carps are expected when curious eies go a fiſhing, and Books are preſſed to the war as well as men;* Ad prælum tanquam ad prœlium. *I neither deſerve that favour from thee nor deſire it, that thou ſhouldeſt reſpect my toies, as* Pliny *ſaid to* Veſpaſian, Tu ſoles noſtras eſſe aliquid putare nugas: *and yet if thou be ſuch a one, that* Auguſtus-*like thou art ready to tax all the world, I know no reaſon why I ſhould regard thy cenſure; the French*

Proverb ſaith, Dé fol juge brieve ſentence, & Nihil facilius quam reprehendere alium. *However, I ſhall ſay now with* Julius Cæſar, Jacta eſt alea, *I have put it to the hazard; thy applauſe ſhall not much tickle me, nor thy raſh ſentence diſcourage me. I have taken notice of a witty alluſion uſed by divers of theſe Emperors, and others concerning them, which I thought fit to commend to thy obſervation, viz. a deſcanting as it were upon the double ſignification of the word, as firſt, that of* Julius Cæſars *Soldiers.*

Gallias Cæſar ſubegit, Nicomedes Cæſarem:
Ecce Cæſar nunc triumphat, qui ſubegit Gallias;
Nicomedes non triumphat, qui ſubegit Cæſarem.
Cæſar *did ſubdue the Gauls, and him hath* Nicomede:
Behold now Cæſar *doth triumph, who did the Gauls ſubdue;*
But Nicomede *triumpheth not, who* Cæſar *hath ſubdu'd.*

Subegit *carrieth a double ſence, the one ſignifieth the conquering of a Nation, and ſo it is taken in the former place, as it is applyed to* Gaul; *the other, the wanton abuſe of the body, in which acceptation it is to be underſtood in reference to* Cæſar *abuſed by* Nicomedes.

So in the Hiſtory of Auguſtus, Suetonius *ſaith*, Quaſi alii ſe puerum, alii ornandum tollendumque jactaſſent; ne aut ſibi aut veteranis par gratia referretur. *The grace lieth in the ambiguity of the Latine word* tollendum, *which*

which in one ſignification, is in a manner equivalent with laudandum & ornandum, *and betokeneth to be* advanced, extolled, *or* lifted up, *and ſo it is to be taken in good part; but in another, it is all one with* tollendum de medio *or* occidendum, *that is, to be* diſpatched out of life *or* killed, *in which ſence* Auguſtus *took it; much like to that you ſhall read of* Nero *in* Martial,

Quis neget Æneæ magni de ſtirpe Neronem?
Suſtulit hic matrem, ſuſtulit ille patrem.

The like appeareth in ſome of Auguſtus *his witty ſpeeches, as that to* Galba; Ego te monere poſſum, corrigere non poſſum. Jocatus eſt ambiguo verbo, *corrigitur* quod reprehenditur, *corrigitur* quod ex diſtorto ſit rectum. *Eraſ. Apophtheg.* Hoc vere eſt monumentum Patris colere; Colimus ea quæ veneramur, & colitur ager aut aliud ſimile. Gemina fuiſſet amphibologia, ſi pro monumento dixiſſet memoriam, quod ab illo dictum arbitror; ſiquidem eorum memoria nobis ſacroſancta dicitur, quos vita defunctos veneramur, & memorias ad Græcorum imitationem vocamus defunctorum monumenta. *Eraſm. in Apophth.*

Nero *ſaid jeſtingly of* Claudius, *That he left* morari inter homines; *in which Verb* morari *there is couched a double ſenſe, which gives the grace unto this pleaſant ſcoff; for being a*

meer Latine word, and having the firſt ſyllable by nature ſhort, it ſignifieth to ſtay, or to make long abode, and taking it thus, Nero *might be thought to imply thus much; that* Claudius *was now departed out of the company of mortal men: but take the ſame word as* Nero *ſpake it, derived of* μωρὸς *in Greek, which ſignifieth a Fool, and hath the firſt ſyllable long, it importeth, that* Claudius *played the fool no longer here in the world among men. In the time of the two firſt* Cæſars, *which had the Art of Government in greateſt perfection, there lived the beſt Poet,* Virgilius Maro; *the beſt Hiſtoriographer,* Titus Livius; *the beſt Antiquary,* Marcus Varro; *and the beſt or ſecond Orator,* Marcus Cicero, *that to the memory of man are known. The time that the Roman Monarchy ſeemed to be at his* ἀκμὴ *was (ſaith* Carion) *from* Julius Cæſar *to the end of* Antoninus *the Philoſopher his reign,*

Afterward, many filthy Monſters reigned, and many ſeditions and civil wars followed; therefore I have not only enlarged the former Treatiſe, by inſerting here and there ſome other ſpecial obſervations, but have made an addition alſo of ſix more Emperors ſince, (as Sir Francis Bacon *alſo ſaith in his advancement of Learning) the ſix next Princes were all learned, or ſingular favourers and advancers*

of

of Learning: which age (as he alſo ſaith) for temporal reſpects, was the moſt happy and flouriſhing that ever the Roman Empire (which then was a Model of the world) enjoyed: a matter revealed and prefigured unto Domitian *in a dream, the night before he was ſlain; for he thought there was grown behind upon his ſhoulders a neck and a head of Gold, which came accordingly to paſs, in thoſe golden times which ſucceeded.* Fulk *in his Book of Meteors obſerveth, not long before the contention of* Galba, Otho *and* Vitellius, *for the Empire of* Rome, *there appeared three Suns, as it were pointing out the ſtrife which followed ſoon after between them three for the Imperial Diadem; of threeſcore and thirteen Roman Emperors (that periſhed within the narrow compaſs of one hundred years) only three died a natural death in their Beds, the reſt were cut off by their luſts.*

It was a heavy time then with Chriſtians, when they groned under the Perſecuting Emperors three hundred years together, yet in that time they had many Lucida intervalla, *many breathing ſpaces under Princes not altogether ſo bloody: there were two principal Perſecutors of the Church,* Diocleſian, *and* Julian, *but the laſt was the moſt peſtilent.* Jerome *juſtly ſtyled him* Canem rabidum; *and it is re-*

markable what is obſerved of him, that going forth to the Perſian War, he asked in ſcoffing manner, What the Carpenters Son (meaning Chriſt) was doing? To whom it was anſwered by a good Chriſtian, Loculum fabricatur, *He is making a Coffin for* Julian; *which Prophetical ſpeech was indeed verified by the event; for* Julian *was ſtrangely wounded and ſlain in that War, and as in his life time he had blaſphemed Chriſt, ſo he died blaſpheming Chriſt, and caſting up his blood towards Heaven, he cried,* Viciſti o Galilæe, *Thou haſt overcome O Galilean.*

This may ſuffice to have ſpoken of ſome of the chief Perſecutors in general, ſince I purpoſe not to enlarge this Treatiſe any more, becauſe there is little ſaid of many of the Roman Emperors, and the * *Hiſtory of them altogether is already written in our Mother tongue: but I intended only at the firſt,* Analecta, *ſome choice and pithy obſervations of them, if theſe therefore may beneſit thee,* ſummam votorum attigi, *I have attained the end of my deſires, and ſo I reſt*

* *Mexia* tranſlated by Grimſton.

Thy Wel-wiſher,

EDWARD LEIGH.

A

A FURTHER ADVERTISEMENT.

READER, *I had held my former reſolution of not enlarging this Treatiſe, but that the Book-ſeller intending a re-impreſſion of the whole, with Cuts and Pictures of the Emperors, ſent me my part with paper between the leaves, and therein intimated a deſire, that I ſhould inſert ſome memorable things by way of Addition. I have to gratifie him, and I hope therein the publick, both corrected and augmented my Obſervations; having (by my intereſt in a learned Gentleman) procured the uſe of* Bœclerus *his Political Diſſertations, upon the twelve firſt Cæſars; from that, and ſome other learned men, I have collected ſuch things as I hope may be uſeful and beneficial to others,*

Thine

E. L.

Coccejus Nerva.

He was 76 years old when he was Emperor. *Carion.*
He was the first of all the Emperors not born in *Rome*, as after him there were few born in it.

Domitian thus made away, *Coccejus Nerva* a prudent, honourable, and aged person was elected Emperor by the Senate; his birth was noble, and of *Italy*, in the City *Narnia*, and of the Province *Umbria*, ruling so well, as he may be esteemed too good a Prince long to continue in so bad an age; who reformed many enormities, and remitted many grievous tributes and exactions; also he recalled from banishment the Christians severely dispersed, and suffered

ſuffered them to enjoy the freedom of their profeſſion, at which time *John* the Evangeliſt returned from *Patmos* (wherein he had been confined) unto *Epheſus*, a City in *Aſia* the leſs, where after his return he lived four years. The excellent temper of his Government is by a glance in *Cornelius Tacitus* touched to the life, *Poſtquam divus Nerva res olim inſociabiles miſcuiſſet, imperium & libertatem.* *Suidas.* *Nicephorus.* *In vita Agricolæ.* *Dion* writeth of him, that he was ſo good a Prince, that he once uttered this ſpeech, *Nihil ſe feciſſe quo minus poſſit depoſito imperio privatus tuto vivere*, He remembreth not to have done any thing why he ſhould not live ſecurely, and without fear of any body, although he gave over the Empire. His ſymbole was, *Mens bona regnum poſſidet.* He diſcharged the City of the new impoſitions which *Veſpaſian* and *Domitian* had laid upon them, and commanded that goods unjuſtly taken ſhould be reſtored to the owners.

He was very eloquent, and a good Poet, as *Martial* teſtifies of him,

Quanta quies placidi, tanta eſt facundia Nervæ.

See *Martial*'s Epigram of him, *lib.* 11. *epig.* 6.

Herodes Atticus found a great treaſure in his houſe, but fearing calumnies, he wrote to *Nervæ*, and diſcovered it. He wrote back again; *Utere, uſe it.* But he being not ſo ſecure, wrote again; *At enim theſaurus privati hominis conditionem ſuperat,*

ſuperat, But the treaſure exceeds the condition of a private man: *Nerva* again nobly replied, *Ergo abutere. Lipſ. in Plin. Paneg.*

On a reverſe of *Nerva* is found a team of horſes let looſe, with this inſcription, *Vehiculatione per Italiam remiſſa*; whereby we learn (which no Hiſtorian remembers) that the Roman Emperors commanded all the carriages of the Country; that *Nerva* remitted that burden; and that the grievance was ſo heavy, that coins were ſtamped in remembrance of this Emperors goodneſs that eaſed them of it. See the coins in *L. Hulſius*, and *Speed*'s Chronicle.

Sextus Aurel. Victor writeth thus; *Quid Nerva prudentius aut moderatius? quid Trajano divinius? Quid præſtantius Hadriano?*

Having reigned only one year, four months and nine daies, he dyed of a paſſionate anger conceived againſt a Senator, in the year of Chriſt his Incarnation ninety nine, the twenty ſeventh day of January, and ſeventy ſixth of his own age.

Dion Caſſius.

Ulpius

Ulpius Trajanus.

UNto *Nerva* ſucceeded *Ulpius Trajanus* into the Roman Empire, in the 42. year of his age, who was born near unto *Sevil* in the Territories of *Spain*, of a Noble Family, but was much more ennobled in himſelf for his Princely endowments; which moved *Nerva* in his life time to adopt him into ſo high a calling, and the whole Senate after his death joyfully to confirm his Election, and ſo often to honour him with the title of the moſt excellent Prince in publick Dedications. He raiſed the Roman Empire unto the very higheſt pitch of glory, and ſpread the power of their command into

Speed *Chron. Trajanus Tudernino Hiſpaniæ oppido oriundus eſt, in quo nihil præter unum Trajanum eſt quod commendemus. Opes nec exiguæ, ſupra privatum modum evectæ. Corpore valido, & forma quæ digna imperio videbatur, erat.* Boxhorn. *orat. de vita & moribus Trajani.*

into the largeſt circuit that ever before or ſince hath been poſſeſſed.

Dr. *Heylin* in his Coſmography in *Tartaria*, ſaith *Cremam* or *Crim*, the ancient ſeat of the *Chams*, or Princes of the *Tartars*, was held impregnable. But *Florus* ſaith, it was taken by ſome of the Roman Emperors, and ſo moſt likely to be *Trajan*; the firſt that ever extended the Roman Empire beyond *Danubius* and the *Euxine*.

Caput non diadema ſed galea ornabat; & qua manu ſceptrum domi, eadem gladium bello tenebat. Boxhorn.

He ſubdued *Dacia*, made ſubject *Armenia*, *Parthia* and *Meſopotomia*, conquered *Aſſyria*, *Perſia*, and *Babylon*; paſſed *Tigris*, and ſtretched the confines of the Roman Empire unto the remoteſt Dominions of the *Indies*, which never before that time had heard of the Roman name. For his perſon, he was not very learned, yet he was a great admirer of, and Benefactor to Learning; a Founder of famous Libraries, a perpetual advancer of Learned men to Office, * and a familiar Converſer with learned Profeſſors. *Quem honorem dicendi Magiſtris? quam dignationem ſapientiæ doctoribus habes? ut ſub te ſpiritum, & ſanguinem, & patriam receperint ſtudia, quæ priorum temporum immanitas exiliis puniebat.* Plin. Secund. *Paneg.*

Præſens adeſt non ſpectator tantum, ſed & inter primos bellatorum; ut virtuti conſiliiſq; ejus omnia deberentur.

** Eruditiſſimos, quamvis ipſe parcæ eſſet ſcientiæ, moderateque eloquens, diligebat.* Aurel. Vict. *Plutarch* was his Maſter.

Of ſtature he was big, of complexion ſwarthy, thin of hair both head and beard, he had a hooked noſe, broad ſhoulders, long hands and a pleaſant eye.

He

He ſtirred up the third perſecution, wherein *Ignatius*, and *Simon* the Son of *Cleophas*, and many other worthy ſaints of God received the Crown of Martyrdom, in ſuch cruel manner, as that his other vertues are much clouded by that Taxation; for mollification whereof, he was entreated by *Plinius Secundus*, whoſe Epiſtles to that purpoſe are yet extant, viz. the 97. of his tenth Book, where he hath this paſſage to *Trajan* concerning them; *Affirmabant hanc fuiſſe ſummam vel culpæ ſuæ, vel erroris, quod eſſent ſoliti ſtato die ante lucem convenire, carmenque Chriſto quaſi Deo dicere ſecum invicem; ſeque Sacramento non in Scelus aliquid obſtringere, ſed ne furta, ne latrocinia, ne adulteria committerent, ne fidem fallerent, ne depoſitum appellati abnegarent, &c.* to which Letter *Trajan* thus replyeth, *Conquirendi non ſunt; ſi deferantur & arguantur, puniendi ſunt.*

Euſebius. Eccleſ. Hiſt. l. 3. c. 30.

Whereupon *Tertullian* in his Apology hath this paſſage, *O Sententiam neceſſitate confuſam! negat inquirendos ut innocentes, & mandat puniendos ut nocentes. Parcit & ſævit; diſſimulat & animadvertit. Quid teipſum cenſura circumvenis? Si damnas cur non & inquiris? ſi non inquiris, cur non & abſolvis?*

He was affable and familiar even with his inferiors; of ſuch carriage toward his ſubjects, as he himſelf would wiſh (he ſaid) his Prince to uſe towards him, if he had

Nemo ſupplici vultu, ſed læti & alacres non tam principem quam patrem agnoſcebant. Boxhorn. *Orat.*

had been a ſubject. *Æquus, clemens, patientiſſimus, atque in amicos perfidelis*, ſaith *Aurelius Victor* of him. He was a great obſerver of Juſtice, inſomuch that when he inveſted any Pretor, he commanded him to uſe the ſame even againſt his own perſon, if he violated Law or equity.

Accipe gladium quem pro me, ſi recte impero, ſin minus, contra me diſtringe.

He erected many famous buildings, and upon whatſoever he builded or repaired, would ſet up a glorious ſuperſcription in honour of himſelf; whence *Conſtantine* the Great called him *Herbam Parietariam*, the Wall-flower, becauſe his name was upon ſo many walls. *Alexander Severus* is rather to be commended, who cauſed that precept of the Goſpel to be engraved on the frontiſpiece of his Palace, *Quod tibi fieri non vis, alteri ne feceris.*

Dion reporteth this Apophthegm of him, *Nullum ſe unquam virum bonum male habiturum, nedum occiſurum. Dies ille triplici gaudio lætus* (ſaith *Pliny* in a Panegyrick to him) *qui principem abſtulit peſſimum, dedit optimum, meliorem optimo genuit.*

In ſolo Plinio Trajanum *habemus, in* Trajano *imaginem omnium magnarum virtutum. Qui ea libertate omnia ſcripſit, qua* Trajanus *fecit; adeo ut incomparabili principe opus digniſſimum ſit & ipſum incomparabile.* Boxhorn. *Orat.*

L. 1. Hiſt. *Rara temporum fœlicitas, ubi ſentire quæ velis, & quæ ſentias dicere licet*, ſaith *Tacitus* of his reign: a man ſo exceedingly wel-

wel-belovedof the Senate,& of the people of *Rome*, that after his daies,whenſoever a new Emperor was elected, they wiſhed unto him the good ſucceſs of *Auguſtus*, and the uprightneſs of *Trajan*.

He died by a flux the ſeventh day of *Auguſt*, after he had reigned 19 years, ſix months and 15 daies, and of his age 64. *Carion Chron.*

Ælius Adrianus.

It was his word, *Non mihi ſed populo*, ſignifying that which he was often heard to ſay; *Ita ſe rempublicam geſturum, ut ſciret rem populi eſſe, non ſuam,*

AFTER the death of *Trajan*, his Nephew *Ælius Adrianus* by the conſent of the Army, who ſwore to him obedience, was proclaimed Emperor; the Senate likewiſe confirmed their choice, as being a man endued with gifts both of Art and Nature, anſwerable to the fortunes of his eſtate. His birth was of *Spain*, in the City *Italica*, near unto *Sevil* where *Trajan* was born; his Father Noble, and his Mother in *Cales* deſcended of an honourable ſtock. *Bochartus De Phœnicum coloniis l.* 1. *c.* 25. ſaith, that *Adrian* being a private man learned in *Caſtalia*,

Hic Græcis literis impenſius eruditus, à pleriſq; Græculus appellatus eſt. Aurel. Vict.

Caſtalia, that he ſhould be Emperor, by a propheſie written in a Laurel leaf which he caſt into that fountain. *Res eſt ſine exemplo* (ſaith *Bochart*) *quæque illum ita percuſſit, ut poſtquam ad imperium evectus eſt, fontem obſtruxerit ingenti mole ſaxorum, ne quis ad capeſſendam Rempublicam eadem ratione impelleretur.* He was a great Mathematician, skilful in Arithmetick, Geometry, and judicial Aſtrology, learned in the Greek and Latine Tongues, well ſeen in Phyſick, and knew the vertues of Herbs, Roots, Stones; a ſingular Muſitian both for Theory and Practiſe, and could both limn and carve with approbation of the skilful; but above all is the admirable report of his momory, who never (they ſay) forgot any thing that he had either read or heard.

He ſaid rightly, *Teſtibus, non teſtimoniis credendum.*

If he diſcovered any man to have the like skill with him in all ſciences (in the which he very much excelled) by whom there might be danger leſt he were overcome, through envy and too greedy a deſire of ſingularity, he cauſed him to be killed. Among the which was *Apollodorus* the Architect, a man beyond compariſon excellent in that Art; for that the Emperor having ſent unto him the plat-form of a great work which he had contrived, he by his efficacious reaſons had proved, that in ſome place it was to be corrected. *Cuffe* of Affectation. He quotes *Dion* and *Bapt. Fulg.* l. 8.

Curioſitatum omnium explorator. Tertul. Apol. Sir *Francis Bacon* Advanc. of Learn.

He was the moſt curious man that lived, & the moſt univerſal enquirer, in ſo much as it was noted for an error in his mind, that he deſired to comprehend all, and not reſerve himſelf for the worthieſt things; but it pleaſed God to uſe the curioſity of this Emperor as an inducement to the peace of the Church in thoſe dayes: for having Chriſt in veneration, not as a God or Saviour, but as a wonder or novelty; and having his picture in his Gallery matched with *Apollonius* (with whom in his vain imgination he thought he had ſome conformity) yet it ſerved the turn to allay the bitter hatred of thoſe times againſt the Chriſtian name, ſo as the Church had peace during his time.

He was a great favourer of learned men. *In* Adriani *Principis aulam non viri tantum militares, ſed innumerabiles Philoſophorum greges, tanquam in Lycæum aut veterem Academiam magnis de rebus diſputaturi confluebant.* Alphonſus Garcias Matamorus *in narat. Apologet. de Acad. & viris literatis. t. 2.* Piccartus *Obſervat. Hiſtorico-polit. Dec. 17. c. 5.* inſtanceth in *K. Alphonſus* and others, who delighted in the ſociety of learned men.

He was minded (as *Lampridius* writeth) to have built a Temple to the ſervice of Chriſt, had not ſome diſſwaded him therefrom.

He was of Perſonage tall and very ſtrong, of a good complexion, and amiable countenance,

countenance, wearing the hair of his head and beard long.

To ſhew that he counted *hatred retained* a baſe and unprincely diſpoſition, as ſoon as he came to the Empire, he laid aſide all his former enmities; Inſomuch as that meeting with one who had been his capital enemy, he ſaid unto him, *Evaſiſti*, Thou art now eſcaped from my diſpleaſure. *Spartianus* in Adriano. *videſis Caſaubonum.*

Valeſius in his *Annotat.* in *Cap.* 18. *Orat. Conſtantini Imp. ad ſanctorum Cætum.* ſaith the verſes of the *Sybils* were feigned by idle men, and publiſhed for the *Sybils* about the time of this Emperor *Adrian. Certe* (ſaith he) *nemo antiquior Juſtino eorum mentionem fecit. Nam ſi Sibylla* (ſaith he ſtill) *tam clarè de Chriſto prædixerat, cur Paulus in ſuis epiſtolis, & cum ad Athenienſes verba faceret, ejus teſtimonio non eſt uſus, maximè cum Aratum aliosGentilium poetas citare non dedignetur? Vide plura*, ibid. *Quid Pſeudoſibyllina oracula, quæ Chriſtiani gentibus objiciebant, quum tamen è Chriſtianorum officina prodiiſſent, in Gentium autem bibliothecis non reperirentur? Scal. in Opuſc.*

When a woman called to him paſſing by, ſaying, *Audi me Cæſar*, Hear me *Cæſar*, and he anſwered, *Non eſt otium*, I have no leaſure, ſhe cryed out, *Noli ergo imperare*, then ceaſe to * reign; at that ſpeech he being moved, ſtaid and heard the † woman. It was accounted diſcretion in him, that would not diſpute his beſt with *Adrian*, excuſing

* Some ſay this was ſpoken to *Philip* of Macedon.

† *Dion laudat Adrianum, qui in cauſis cognoſcendis fuerit & facillimus & diligentiſſimus, adeo ut uni cauſæ cognoſcendæ & dijudicandæ ſæpe dies undecim aut duodecim tribueret, nonnunquam etiam noctes ſimul inſumeret.*

ſing himſelf, *That it was reaſon to yeeld to him that commanded thirty legions.*

Though he was famous for his induſtry, wit, memory, and fortunate ſucceſſe, and could in his fatal ſickneſs command others to be ſlain, yet death denyed ſubjection to him. His ſervant which undertook it fled, his adopted Son pretended piety, his own hand was prevented by attendants, his ſolicited Phyſician ſlew himſelf that he might not ſlay the Emperor, who yet complained at his death, *Many Phyſicians have ſlain the Emperor.* He ſported at death with theſe Verſes:

Turba medicorum Cæſarem perdidit.

Animula, vagula, blandula,
Hoſpes, comeſque Corporis,
Quæ nunc abibis in loca?
Pallidula, rigida, nudula,
Nec ut ſoles, dabis jocos.
My fleeting fond poor darling,
Bodies Gueſt and equal,
Where now muſt be thy lodging?
Pale, and ſtark, and ſtript of all,
And put from wonted ſporting.

When he had reigned in great honour and love the ſpace of one and tweuty years, five months and fifteen daies, and lived fifty two years, he dyed the eighth or tenth day of *July* of a Dropſie, which malady ſo tormented him, that willingly he refuſed all ſuſtenance, and languiſhed away through faintneſſe.

Antonini

Antoninus Pius.

UNto *Adrianus* ſucceeded *Antoninus Pius*, who was for his many vertues, or rather piety toward the Gods, Sur-named *Pius*; for piety (to ſpeak properly) is the true worſhip of God, as *Auſtin* ſhews in his 10. book *de Civit. Dei c.* 1. But he was not truly pious, becauſe he knew not the true God.

Hunc ferè nulla vitiorum labes maculavit. Aurelius Victor.

Vixit ingenti honeſtate privatus, majori in imperio; Pius propter clementiam dictus eſt. Eutropius.

He was compared for his peace and policy unto *Numa Pompilius*, the ſecond King of *Rome*. His birth was in *Lombardy*, the Son of *Aurelius Fulvius*. He was a Prince excellently learned, and had the patient

patient and ſubtile wit of a School-man, inſomuch as in common ſpeech (which leaves no vertue untaxed) he was called *Cymini-Sector*, a carver or divider of Cumin Seed, which is one of the leaſt ſeeds; ſuch a patience he had, and ſettled ſpirit to enter into the leaſt and moſt exact differences of cauſes: he likewiſe approached a degree nearer unto Chriſtianity, and became as *Agrippa* ſaid to *Paul*, *half a Chriſtian*; holding their religion and law in good opinion, and not only ſtaying perſecution, but giving way to the advancement of Chriſtians. In his time *Juſtin Martyr* wrote notable books of Apologie for the Chriſtians, which were preſerved and read in the Senate of *Rome*, and mollified the Emperors mind towards them. He was favourable to all ſorts of men, having that Apophthegm of *Scipio Africanus* rife in his mouth, that "He had "rather ſave one ſubjects life than kill a "thouſand enemies.

His Symbole was, *Melius ſervare unum quam occidere mille.*

Scipio Africanus was wont to ſay, *Malle ſe unum civem ſervare quam mille hoſtes occidere.*

He was of ſtature tall, of a ſeemly preſence, in countenance majeſtical, in manners mild, of a ſingular wit, very learned and eloquent, a great lover of Husbandry, peaceable, merciful and bounteous; he neither in his youth did any thing raſhly, nor in his age any thing negligently. In time of a great famine which was in *Rome*, he provided for their wants, and maintained the people with bread and wine, the moſt of the time the famine laſted;

Solus omnium principum ſine civili ſanguine fuit. Carion.

lasted; making victuals to be brought from all parts, and paying for the same at his own cost.

Having reigned twenty and two years, seven months and twenty six daies, he dyed of a Fever at *Porium* the seventh of *March*, the year of his life 75. and of Christ 162. 23 Saith *Carion.* 70 *Carion.*

His death was generally lamented, and the Romans did him great honour, and made sacrifices to him, Canonizing him for a God, and building a Temple also to him.

Lucius

Lucius Ælius Verus. — *M. Aurelius Antoninus, Philoſophus.*

This was the firſt time wherein the Roman Empire was governed by two *Auguſti*; *Domitian* was *Titus* his Aſſociate, yet was he not called or accounted *Auguſtus* until the death of his Brother *Titus*: but now two Emperors reigned at one and the ſelf-ſame time.

THere ſucceeded *Antoninus* the *Divi fratres*, the two adoptive Brethren, *Lucius Ælius Verus*, Son to *Ælius Verus*, (who delighted much in the ſofter kind of learning, and was wont to call the Poet *Martial* his *Virgil*) and *Marcus Aurelius Antoninus*, whereof the latter who obſcured his Collegue, and ſurvived him long, was named the Philoſopher, who as he excelled all the reſt in learning, ſo he excelled them likewiſe in perfection of all

royal

royal vertues. Betwixt their natures and conditions was as much odds as between day and night; the one very moderate, loving and induſtrious; the other proud, careleſs, and cruel; the fruits whereof the poor Chriſtians felt, whoſe chiefeſt Pillars, *Polycarpus* Biſhop of *Smyrna*, and *Juſtin Martyr* an excellent Philoſopher, with more were put to moſt cruel deaths.

Yet *Heraldus* on *Tertullian*, ſaith, they publiſhed no Laws nor Edicts againſt the Chriſtians, but the Governors and Magiſtrates of many Provinces were cruel towards them, without any new command or Edict.

After his death the whole Government returned to *Antoninus Philoſophus* only, whoſe Symbol was, *Regni Clementia cuſtos.*

Vir quem mirari facilius quis quam laudare poſſit; à principio vitæ tranquilliſſimus, adeo ut in infantia quoque vultum nec ex gaudio nec ex mœrore mutaret. Eutropius.

He wrote twelve books of his own affairs, on which both Mr. *Gataker* hath commented in Latine, and Dr. *Merick Caſaubon* both in Latine and Engliſh.

He was ſur-named *The Philoſopher*, not only for his knowledge, but alſo practice of Philoſophy; *Studium Philoſophiæ conſtans, & indefeſſum nomen illi celeberrimum conciliavit.* Gatak. *Annotat. in lib.* 1. *Ant.* He had often in his mouth that ſpeech of *Plato*, *Tunc florent reſpublicæ, quando vel Philoſophus regit, vel Rex Philoſophatur.* Yet ſome ſay, that this inſcription (of *Philoſopher*) attributed to him, was not genuine. The *Grecians* call him only *Marcus*, or *Marcus*

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, without the addition of *Philoſopher. Notæ P. Voet. in Marci & Commodi Imperatorum vitam.* This good Emperor poſſeſſed the Seat of Majeſty 19 years and 11 daies, wherein he alwaies approved himſelf in wit excellent, in life vertuous, very learned and eloquent, full of clemency, juſtice and temperance;† nothing inferior to moſt of all the worthieſt Emperors before him, nor matchable in qualities by many of the Monarchs that followed him.

†*Tantum Marco ſapientiæ, innocentiæ, ac literarum fuit, ut is Marco-mannos, cum filio Commodo quem Cæſarem ſuffecerat, petiturus, Philoſophorum obteſtantium vi circumfunderetur; ne ſe expeditioni aut pugnæ prius committeret, quàm ſectarum ardua & occulta explanaviſſet.* Aurel. Vict.

He would not believe that *Avidius Caſſius* could ever have depoſed him; and his reaſon was, The Gods had greater care of him, than to let *Caſſius* wrong him undeſervedly. *Vulc. Gallicanus in vita Avidii Caſſii.*

Julian the Emperor in his Book entituled *Cæſares*, being a *Paſquil* or *Satyr* to deride all his predeceſſors, feigned that they were all invited to a Banquet of the gods, and *Silenus* the Jeſter ſate at the lower end of the Table, and beſtowed a ſcoff on every one as they came in; but when *Antoninus Philoſophus* entred, he was gravelled and out of countenance, not knowing where to carp at him, ſave at the laſt he gave a glance at his patience towards his wife.

When

When his Armies were even famiſhed * for want of Water, the Chriſtians by their prayers procured rain from Heaven to their great refreſhing, and the *Barbarians* were daſhed with thunder and fire; whereupon he mitigated the rage againſt Chriſts Profeſſors, and in his time the Church for the moſt part was in peace. He dyed the ſeventh day of *March*, in the year of our Lord 181. and of his own age fifty nine.

* The Chriſtian Legion was after that time called *Fulminatrix.* Euſeb. *Eccleſ. Hiſt. l.* 5. *c.*5. though *Valeſius* (in *loc.*) think it improbable, that the whole Legion of the Roman Soldiers at that time was Chriſtians, (which yet *Euſebius* ſeems to affirm) and he would have it rather called *Legio Fulminea*, than *Fulminatrix*. *Tertullian* in the fifth Chapter of his Apologie mentions it; upon which ſaith *Heraldus* in his Commentary. *Teſtata hiſtoria, ſed quam profani ſcriptores quum divinam potentiam non intelligerent, interpolarunt, ac tantum tamque inſigne Dei beneficium magicis incantationibus ſacrilege tribuerunt. Iſtud* Caſſius, *Arnuphis Ægyptii, vel Juliani, ut apud Suidam alius neſcio quis, magicis procurationibus, Marci ipſius precibus Capitolinus, moribus pietatique Claudianus, Chriſtiano nomini iniquiores adſcribant.* Gatak. *Annotat.* in *Lib.* 1. *Antonini Imperatoris.* His Wife *Fauſtina* (by whoſe means partly he obtained the Empire) was a Princeſs, but a lewd and wanton woman; one counſelled him to put her away, but he anſwered, *Si uxorem dimittimus, reddamus & dotem*; chuſing rather to have his houſe defiled, than little.

Lucius

Lucius Ælius Aurel. Commdous.

HIS name agreed not with his diſpoſition, he being called *Commodus*, who (was according to* *Paulus Oroſius*) *cunctis incommodus*.

Dion writeth yet, that he was not naturally malicious, but as innocent as any; only his too great ſimplicity and timorouſneſs inſlaved him to them he converſed with: through whoſe ſeduction he became debauched and cruel.

*l. 7. c. 16. *Semper incommodus* ſaith *Vopiſcus in vita Taciti Imperatoris. c. 6.*

Concerning his birth there paſſeth this ſtory or fiction; His mother *Annia Valeria Fauſtina* (daughter of *Antoninus Pius*, and wife of *Antoninus Philoſophus*) when ſhe ſaw certain *Gladiators* or ſword-players going to

to fight, was monſtrouſly inflamed with the love of one of them: upon whom ſhe doted ſo extreamly, that her affection was almoſt grown to phrenſy, languiſhing wherewith, ſhe confeſſed her love-madneſs to her husband. He perceiving her diſtemper to increaſe, conſulted with the *Chaldeans* or Sooth-ſayers, what was beſt to be done in ſo deſperate a caſe, for the ſaving of his wife's life, and the quenching of her unchaſt deſires. They after long conſideration determined, that there was left for her but one only remedy, as ſtrange as the diſeaſe; *viz.* to cauſe the ſaid *Gladiator* to be murdered ſecretly that ſhe might not know of it, and that the next night her husband intended to lye with her, a cup full of his luke-warm blood changed into the likeneſs of water ſhould be given her to drink, *ut ſeſe* * *ſublevaret*: which was performed accordingly, and ſhe cured of her diſeaſe, but with

See *Juvenal* of *Hippia* Sat. 6. from verſe 82. to the 114.

* *Neſcio quis primus* ſublavaret *hoc loco repoſuit pro eo quod vetus editio & ſcripti codices habebant*, ſublevaret. *Quam veram eſſe ſcripturam quovis pignore contendere ſum paratus. Non dicit autem quomodo ſublevaret ſe* Fauſtina *ſanguine illius gladiatoris occiſi. Quod de induſtria tacuit hic auctor, & modeſtis verbis mollivit horrendum medicationis genus. Non dubium certè eſt, pro remedio ſanguinem illum ebibiſſe* Fauſtinam, *atque ita ſe ſublevaſſe. Nam* ſublevare, ſubvenire, ſuccurrere, juvare, *verba ſunt medelarum & medicamentorum propria apud illos qui de experimentis ſcripſerunt.* Salmaſius in Hiſtoriam Auguſtam. p. 91. *Sunt qui ſcribant, gladiatoris hujus quem Fauſtina deperibat, ſanguinem, in aquæ ſpeciem mutatum, illi infauſtæ fuiſſe propinatum; cui rei fingendæ videtur vox iſta* ſublevaret *anſam præbuiſſe. Hoc tamen commentum ſecutus eſt ille ſuaviludius qui inſcriptionem eam compoſuit quæ a Fauſtina poſita fingitur, amore iſto liberata.* Caſaubonus in hunc Capitolini locum. *Palatinus adhæret vulgatis*, ſublevarer, *quod tamen minus quadrat*, ſaith *Gruter* on the place.

this bad ſucceſſe; for that night, as it is ſaid, ſhe was delivered of *Commodus*, who in qualities reſembled that *Gladiator* upon this occaſion, as ſome reported: which they aſcribed to the power of her imagination, but others eſteemed him a Baſtard. *Capitolinus in Marco Antonino.* c. 17.

**Extant tamen nummi multi in ejus honorem cuſi, cum hac inſcriptione,* PUDICITIA. Caſaubonus *in Hiſt. Aug.*

The conjecture that *Commodus* was born in adultery, is confirmed by the* behavior of *Fauſtina* his mother at *Cajeta*, where ſhe was wont wantonly to gaze on naked *gladiators* and mariners. *Capitolinus ibid. Aurelius Victor.*

When his mother was with child with him and his twin-brother *Antoninus* (who dyed when 4 months old) ſhe dreamed that ſhe brought forth two Serpents, one whereof, *viz. Commodus*, as the event proved, exceeded in fierceneſs. *Lampridius in Commodo.* c. 1.

Tiberius preſaged of *Caligula*, that he would prove a very poyſonous Serpent to the people of *Rome*, and a *Phaethon* to the whole earth; and ſo he did, ſhewing himſelf not only an enemy to vertue, but alſo to all that favoured of it. *Suetonius in Caligula.* c. 11.

* *Fuit revera* Commodus *forma corporis juſta, ut Lampridius; ſed ingenio moribuſque planè diſtortiſſimis.* Gatakerus *in* Antoninum. p. 45.

Commodus was more noble by deſcent than any of the former Emperors, and the moſt*beautiful perſon of his time. *Herodianus. l.* 1. *c. ult.*

He hath a place in *Adrianus Barlandus* his book among the *Litterati urbis Romæ Principes.*

Julius

Julius Pollux dedicateth his *Onomasticon* to him.

Valesius in Excerpta Peiresci thinks *Solinus*, Author of the *Polyhistor*, to be his contemporary, and that he was the *Julius Solon* who being made Senator with other bankrupts, was said by way of reproach to he banisht into the Senate.

He was so excellent a marks-man, that he would hit with an arrow or dart whatsoever he * aimed at, exceeding the most expert *Parthian* Archers, and *Numidian* Darters which he had about him. *Herodianus l. 1. c. 15. editionis Bœclerianæ.*

He darted at wild beasts so dexterously, that he never threw the second time, nor gave them any wound but was mortal. *Id. ibid.*

——*A nulla mors est incerta sagitta.*

Lucanus de Parthis. lib. 8.

His skill is the more remarkable, he being left handed, as *Dio* writeth; who saith, he boasted thereof.

Once he shot forked arrows at *Moresco* Estriches, which were wonderful swift of foot, using their wings as sails in running. These he did hit so full in the neck, that though their heads were struck off with the furiousness of the blow, yet they ran awhile headless, as if they had not been hurt. *Herodianus ubi supra.*

[*Fromondus* writeth of an Eagle, whose head being chopt off by an angry Clown, for quarreling with his dog, the Body flew

* Οὐδενὸς ἥττων εὐστοχίᾳ τε καὶ εὐχειρίᾳ. εἰ μὴ τῶν τούτων εὐμοιρίαν αἰσχροῖς ἐπιτηδεύμασι κατήσχυνεν.

Nulli certior fuit manus & majore dexteritate prædita: nisi quam his in rebus nactus erat felicitatem, studiis fœdissimis contaminasset.

Herodianus fine *lib.* 1. *interprete* Stephano.

Gladiator & luctator eximius, Jaculator certissimus.

Dietericus *in Breviario historico.*

over the barn near the place of this rude execution. This was done at *Fromond* his Fathers house; nor is the story improbable, if we consider what ordinarily happens in Pigeons and Ducks, when their heads are cut off. He mentions also a Malefactor beheaded at *Antwerp*, whose head, when it had given some few jumps into the crowd, and a Dog fell a licking the blood, caught the Dogs ear in its teeth, and held it so fast, that he being frighted ran away with the mans head hanging at his ear, to the great astonishment and confusion of the people. This was told *Fromondus* by an ey-witnesse of the fact. Dr. *More* of the Immortality of the Soul. *lib.* 3. *c.* 14.]

Another time a *Panther* having fastned upon a man, (who was brought into the lists) so that all thought she would instantly tear him in pieces; *Commodus* darted at her so happily, that he killed the beast & saved the man, preventing the ‖ impression of her teeth with the point of his dart.

[*Alcon* seeing his son *Phalerus* (one of the *Argonauts*) sleeping on the grasse, and a Serpent creeping on his breast, slew the Serpent, and saved his son.

—— *Non sic libravit in hostem*
Spicula, qui nato Serpentis corpore cincto
Plus timuit dum succurrit; dum jactibus iisdem
Interitum vitamque daret; stabilemque teneret
Corde tremente manum; totamque exiret in artem
Spe propiore metus; dans inter membra duorum
Unius mortem. ——

Sidonius

* Φθάσας τῇ σῦ δόρατος αἰχμῇ τὴν τῶν ὀδόντων ἀκμήν. *Herodianus, l.* 1. *c* 15.

Sidonius Apollinaris *in paneg. Majoriani, videſis* Servium *in ſextam Virgilii Eclogam.*]

Commodus ſlew alſo 100 Lions with ſo many darts; their bodies falling in ſuch order, that they might eaſily be numbred (not one dart miſcarrying.) *Herodianus ubi ſupra.* *Dio* ſaith Bears.

[*Celeberrimum illud eſt, Commodum Cæſarem in ſolicitudinibus & æſtuationibus theatricorum certaminum, quando ex ſuperiore loco urſos jaculis impetebat: quod refert* Dion, *ingens poculum dulcis vini ſolitum haurire ἀμυστί. In quo a ſpectantibus id in conviviis frequens, ſucclamatum fuerit, ζήθι μοι, id eſt Vivas: ſed amphibolice pronunciatum Grammatici contendunt, perinde ac dicatur; Compleas vivendi modum, id eſt, Morere.* Rhodiginus *Antiqu. Lectionum. l. 7. c. 26.*]

He uſed to retain with him the children of them whom he ſent to be Lieutenants of Provinces, as pledges of their Allegiance and fidelity. *Herodianus l. 3. c. 2.*

Commodus * reſembled his Father in nothing, but that he alſo in perſon fought fortunately againſt the Germans. *Eutropius* l. 8.

* *Imperii paterni, non & inſtituti hæres.* Gataker*us in Ant. p.* 4.

He exceeded in luſt, covetouſneſs, and cruelty; was faithful to none: and moſt fierce againſt thoſe whom he had before advanced to the greateſt honours, and enriched with moſt vaſt rewards. *Sextus Aurelius Victor* in his *Epitome.*

Patris virtutes ſpurciſſimis vitiis expunxit, adeo difficilius eſt, filium probum gignere, quam eligere; felicibus ab uſque Trajano *adoptionibus, infeliciſſima in Marco ſobole.* Buſſieres *in* Floſculis Hiſt.

He and *Heliogabalus* conferred all the dignities of the Empire upon men for luſt and licentiouſneſs moſt like unto themſelves. *Walſinghams* Manual.

Commodus was ſo monſtrouſly debauched, that very often he encountred the *Gladiators* at their own weapons in the Amphitheatre. *Victor*'s Epitome.

Gladiatoribus convixit, & gladiatorem ſe perfectum exhibuit: ſecutoribus cumprimis tam impenſe favens, ut (Dione *auctore*) *eorum armatura uteretur.* Gatakerus *in Antoninum* Περὶ αὐτοῦ p. 4.

He was the firſt Emperor that had been hitherto born in the time of his Fathers Empire. Dr. *Heylin*'s Geography.

He was the firſt Roman Emperor who through covetouſneſs ſold offices for money; *Veſpaſian* had done it before him, but through neceſſity, finding the common-wealth in debt, and the treaſure exhauſted. *Mariana* and *Turquet's Hiſtory of Spain tranſlated by Grimſton.*

He killed ſome though innocent, inſtead of others who were guilty, and did let offenders eſcape for money. *Lampridius in Commodo. cap.* 14.

If any one had an enemy of whom he would be revenged, he needed but to bargain with *Commodus* for a ſum of money to kill him. *Id. Ibid.*

He pretended that he would go into *Africk*, that he might raiſe money for that feigned journey, which when he had gathered,

thered, he ſpent in banqueting and gaming. *Id. ib.*

He was ſo careleſs in ſerious matters that he wrote nothing more than *Vale* in many of his letters; and ſo ſerious in things of light or ill concernment, that he cauſed to be regiſtred how often he frequented the fence-ſchool, with all his cruelties and impurities. *Id. ibid. c.* 13 compared with the 11. and 15.

He encountred the *Gladiators* 735 times, ſaith *Lampridius* in his life, cap. 11. and 12. the ſame Author writeth that 365 of thoſe fights were in his Fathers reign. On which place *Caſaubon* obſerveth, *Eſt digna res maxima admiratione, hanc filii ſui inſaniam tantum virum inhibere non potuiſſe.*

He employed not himſelf in any thing which * became an Emperor; making glaſſes, dancing, ſinging, piping, playing the Buffoon and fencer: bathing ſeven or eight times in the day, eating in the Bath, drinking in the Theatre in womans habit; * mingling human excrements with the daintieſt fare, taſting them himſelf, thinking ſo to mock others. *Id. Ibid.*

He kept 300 Concubines, and ſo many Boyes which he uſed as women; whereof *Saoterus* was chief: like * *Caligulæ* commanded women to be raviſhed

* *In his artifex, quæſtationis imperatoriæ non erant.* Lampridius. cap. 1.

* *Homo furioſus putabat magnum facere, cum ſuos convivas ab eſu ciborum quibus ipſe delectaretur hac ſpurcitie averteret.* Caſaubonus.

* *Commod. Imperator, qui natus eſt eo die quo* Caligula; *tanquam eundem haberet horoſcopum, & ipſe ſorores conſtupravit, concubinaſq; ſuas ſub oculis ſuis conſtuprari ab amicis jubebat.* Beroald. *in Suet.* Caligulam *habuit velut exemplar quod imitaretur.* Id. Ibid.

in his ſight, committed inceſt as he did with all his Siſters; and exceeded him (ſaith *Triſtan*) in polluting the Temples with whoredom and human blood.

We read not of any Emperors which were more cruel, than thoſe who were moſt fearful and effeminate; as *Tiberius*, *Caligula*, *Nero*, *Commodus*. B. *Reynolds* of the Paſſions. p. 152.

His natural incontinence was incredibly enflamed with divers ſorts of ointments (uſed by him to preſerve himſelf from the Peſtilence, whilſt it reigned throughout *Italy*) which were of ſo hot and ſubtile a quality, that they excited in him the unquenchable flames of extraordinary laſciviouſneſs. *Theodorus Metochita.*

What names this beaſtly Monſter, rather than Emperor, gave to his attendants, I dare not mention, leſt I ſhould offend chaſt ears, and modeſt minds. *Camden* in his Remains.

He was ſo cruel, that when he was but twelve years old, becauſe the bath in which he waſhed was a little too warm, he commanded that the heater of it ſhould be caſt into a hot furnace: but his Tutor *Pitholaus* who was put upon the employment, burned a wethers skin inſtead of the man; *ut fidem pœnæ de fœtore nidoris impleret.* Lampridius in Commodo. c. 1.

Dio lib. 71. reporteth that the Phyſitians poyſoned his Father to gratify him.

He

He put to death his Wife *Criſpina*, his eldeſt ſiſter * *Lucilla*, and *Annia Fauſtina* his Fathers Couſin German, with 24 of the eminenteſt Perſonages of the Roman Empire.

* *Lucilla ſoror Commodi, quæ nupta fuerat Vero, poſt Veri mortem a Commodo commode tractata. Cæterum poſtquam Commodus uxorem*

Interfecit quamplurimos ſenatores, maximè quos animadvertit nobilitate induſtriaque excellere. P. Oroſius *l.* 7. *c.* 16.

duxit, coacta cedere imperatoris uxori, adeo id ægrè tulit, ut adverſus fratrem occultam ſeditionem moverit. Ea cum malè ceſſiſſet, ingens Commodo in Senatum Romanum odium concitavit, ita ut inde Commodus nunquam bene commodarit urbi. Unde Perennis occaſionem nactus bona reorum piſcandi, tantas congeſſit divitias, ut ad imperium occupandum aſpirarit. Sed ut is oppreſſus, Cleander non minor tyrannus ſucceſſit. Quo caſo, deinde cædes promiſcuè durarunt, donec per concubinam Marciam ac alios conjuratos Commodus ſtrangulatus eſt. Glareanus *in Eutropium.*

He commanded one to be caſt to wild beaſts, for reading the life of *Caligula* in *Suetonius*, becauſe he had the ſame birthday with *Caligula*. *Lampridius in Commod. c.* 10. *Auguſt* 31.

Some for deferring to kill their Antagoniſts, he commanded to be tyed together with them, and ſo to fight all at once: which being done, they ſtrove each againſt other, and killed divers of the Spectators, who were forced by the narrowneſs of the place, and multitude to preſs too near. *Xiphilinus in Commodo.*

His very jeſts were cruel; ſeeing one have white hairs among black ones, he ſet on his head a ſtarling, which thinking it picked worms, made feſters. *Lampridius in Commodo. c.* 10.

He

He cut a fat man off at the middle of the belly, that he might ſee his entrals drop out ſuddenly. *Id. ibid. c.* 10.

He called them **Monopodii* and *Luſcinii* whom he deprived of a foot or eye. *Id. ib.*

He made the Prieſts of *Iſis* beat their breaſts with Pine-apples to the miſchieving of themſelves; charged *Bellona* her worſhippers to cut off their arm in earneſt: and ſtained the ſervice of *Mithras* with real homicide. *Lampridius in Commodo. c.* 9.

He imitated Chirurgions in letting blood, and Barbers in trimming; under which pretence he cut off ears and noſes: wherefore ſuch was his jealouſy of all men, that he was forced to be his own Barber.

Commodus once gathered together all the ſick men and cripples in *Rome*, to whoſe knees tying ſomewhat like the feet of Dragons, (ſuch as Poets feign the Giants have) he killed them with his club, having firſt given them ſpunges to throw at him inſtead of ſtones, with ſeeming oppoſition. *Quia dicitur* Hercules *cum monſtris & gigantibus pugnaſſe, & viciſſe, voluit & novus hic* Hercules *Romanus gigantes occidere. Vix credi poſſit tantus furor, niſi narraret qui præſens vidit omnia* Dio. Caſaubonus.

Having killed an *Oſtrich* and cut off his head, he came where the Senators ſate in

* *Monopodios vocando, quibus ſingulos pedes fregiſſet Commodus, per jocum adludebat adgentis illius appellationem; quibus a natura ſinguli tantum pedes, atque inde* Μονόποδες *&* Μονόκωλοι *dicebantur: nec mihi dubium eſt eo reſpexiſſe per jocum, cum illis appellationibus luderet in rebus triſtiſſimi exempli ſæviſſimus imperator.* Salmaſius. *Quos luſcos feciſſet jocoſe appellabat Commodus Luſcinios. Luſcinii autem ſunt Luſcinia; nam Luſcinius & Luſcinia dicebatur.* Id. ibid.

in the Theatre, and holding out the birds head in one hand, and a bloody ſword in the other, ſaid nothing: only nodded his head with a ſmiling countenance, to ſhew he would do as much for them. Which moving laughter, had occaſioned the ſlaughter of many; had not *Dio* perſwaded thoſe who ſate near him, to champ bay leaves (which he took out of his Chaplet) as himſelf did, by the conſtant motion of his mouth, to conceal the *indicium* of laughter.

Under a ſhew of fencing he often ſlew his Antagoniſts, who encountred him only with foils. *Aurelius Victor.*

Hiſtories not only affirm that he played the Gladiator, but his ſtatue in that faſhion ſtark naked, with his drawn ſword in his hand, is yet extant at *Rome* in the *Farneſian* Palace. *See* Sandys *Travels l.* 4.

He imitated * *Nero* in driving of Chariots, and if *Lætus* had not deterred him, he would have burned *Rome*, as *Nero* did.

* Neronis *inſania* Commodi *turpitudini per omnes flagitii gradus*

ἀντίτυπος & *eſt, ideoque hic a nobis producta, egregium ſc. par:* princeps hiſtrio & gladiator. *Bœclerus in Herodianum. p.* 380.

So exceeding great was the madneſs of this vile monſter, that he ſent a letter to the Senate with this ſtyle: *Imperator Cæſar Lucius, Ælius, Aurelius, Commodus, Antoninus, Auguſtus, Pius, Fœlix, Sarmaticus, Germanicus maximus,* * *Britannicus,*

* *Peireskius miſit ad Cottonum ectypos variorum nummorum, ac nominatim Commodi, ob inuſitatam ſcripturam vocis Britannia, per duplex* T T, *& ſimplex* N. Gaſſendus *de vita Peireskii. lib.* 2.

pacator

pacator orbis terrarum, Invictus, Romanus || *Hercules, Pontifex Maximus, Tribunitiæ poteſtatis, XVIII. Imperator, VIII. Conſul, VII. Pater Patriæ, &c.* Xiphilinus *in Commodo.*

|| *Cum quo jaculandi arte feraſq; occidendi induſtria certabat. Ferunt enim multas ſumma dexteritate necare, & uno quidem ictu ſolitum. Album item, quodcunque poneretur collineando ferire conſueviſſe, & vulnera, plagaſque lethales dijudicaviſſe.* Ant. Auguſtinus *Dial. V. Antiq.*

The former Emperors at pleaſure ſometimes took ſome few names to themſelves, ſometimes beſtowed them on others. In latter times, vertue decaying, ambition in titles encreaſed. Yet *Juſtinian* accounted as a ſober Emperor, hath his ſtyle notwithſtanding not much ſhorter. *Imp. Cæſar Flavius* Juſtinianus, *Alemannicus, Gothicus, Francicus, Germanicus, Anticus, Alanicus, Vandalicus, Africanus, Pius, Fœlix, Inclytus victor, ac Triumphator ſemper Auguſtus.* Sr. H. Savil on *Tacitus*'s Hiſtory. p. 36.

He called *Rome* after his name, and all the months after his ſur-names, *viz.*

January,	*Amazonius.*
February,	*Invictus.*
March,	*Fælix.*
April,	*Pius.*
May,	*Lucius.*
June,	*Ælius.*
July,	*Aurelius.*
Auguſt.	*Commodus.*
September,	*Auguſtus.*
October,	*Herculeus.*
November,	*Romanus.*
December,	*Exuperatorius.*

Which

Which titles through madneſs he often altered, except that of *Amazonius*, taken up out of love to *Marcia* his Concubine, whoſe picture he wore upon the outſide of his garment; and of *Exuperatorius*, becauſe he would have been thought to excel all men: as appeareth by his being ſacrificed to as a God. *Lampridius in Commodo. c.* 11. & 9.

When his Favorite *Perennis* was dead, he repealed many things that were done by him; but perſiſted not above 30 dayes in his reformation, permitting *Cleander* to be more licencious than *Perennis*: He deſigning 25 Conſuls for one year, wch was never done before, nor ſince; and changing the Pretorian Prefects daily and hourly: *Martius Quartus* holding the place only 5 dayes, *Niger* but 6 hours; and thoſe whom *Commodus* himſelf made Prefects, laſted not 3 years. *Lampridius in Commodo. c.* 6. & 15.

Yea to ſuch dotage he was grown, that he refuſed his fathers name, commanding himſelf, in ſtead of *Commodus* the ſon of *Marcus*, to be ſtyl'd *Hercules* the ſon of *Jupiter*; and accordingly he forſook the Roman and Imperial habit, thruſting himſelf into a Lions skin, and carried a great club in his hand: and (which made him extremely ridiculous) he put on alſo purple *Amazonian* robes embroydered with gold;

Τί ἦν θαυμαστὸν, εἰ μὴ καθ' ἡμᾶς Κόμμοδος ὁ αὐτοκράτωρ ἐπὶ τῷ ὀνόματι παρακείμενον ἔσχε τὸν Ἡράκλειον ῥόπαλον ὑπερωμένης αὐτῷ λεοντῆς, καὶ Ἡρακλῆς καλούμενος ἤθελεν, Ἀλεξάνδρου τοῦ Λευκολικοῦ τοσούτοις αὐτὸν ἀφομοιοῦντος θεοῖς, ἀπὸς καὶ τῇ Ἀρτέμιδι; Athenæus lib. 12. c. 9.

gold; expreſſing in one and the ſame garb auſterity and effeminateneſs: this was his daily attire.

Camden writeth in his *Britannia* that a ſtatue of *Commodus* was digged out of an hill in *Richmond-ſhire*, called *Burgh*, where the Romans had a garriſon. *Tunc poſita hæc ſtatua videatur*, ſaith he, *cum ille immodicus ſui æſtimator, eo veſaniæ proceſſerit, ut Herculem Romanum Jovis filium ſe dici juſſerit. Eſt enim Herculis habitu efformata, & dextra clava armata, cui ſubeſt mutila, & lacunis interrupta inſcriptio.*

Fox in his Acts and Monuments ſaith, *Commodus* wore a Lions skin, that he might be counted King of men, as the Lion is of beaſts.

He commanded many Statues of himſelf to be erected throughout the City, and one before the Senate-houſe in form of an Archer ready to ſhoot; that his very Images might ſtrike terror into the beholders. *Herodian. lib. 1. c. 14. Lampridius in Commodo. c. 9. Dio.*

He was ſo mad that he purpoſed to forſake his palace, and live in a fence-ſchool; and now being weary of the name of *Hercules*, he aſſumed the name of a famous ſword-player deceaſed.

On New-years day he determined in great ſolemnity to iſſue forth of a fence-ſchool, from which *Marcia*, *Lætus*, and *Electus* diſſwaded him; but he incenſed with ſthem, commanded them to depart, and

and retiring into his bed-chamber, to repoſe himſelf at noon (as he was wont,) he wrote their names in a table-book, dooming them to death that night. Having done this, he laid his table-book on the pallet, not imagining that any would enter into his chamber. His darling *Philo-Commodus* being ſport-ful while *Commodus* was bathing entred the bed-chamber (as he uſed) and taking the book to play with, as he came forth again was met by *Marcia*; who took the book from him, leſt he might ſpoil ſome weighty matter. As ſoon as ſhe perceived it was *Commodus* his own hand, ſhe greatly deſired to read it. But finding the deadly contents, ſhe diſcovered to *Electus* and *Lætus* the danger they were in, who all reſolved to purchaſe their own ſecurity by *Commodus* his death, and concluded it moſt convenient to † diſpatch him by poyſon; which *Marcia* having given to him, it caſt him into a ſlumber, out of which awaking he vomited extremely: the conſpirators fearing fulneſs might expel the poyſon, with great promiſes perſwade *Narciſſus* a bold young man to ſtrangle him.

De multis jugulandis cogitans, ipſe jugulatur ultimo die anni. Cappellus.

† *Et Commodum quidem primo occultatius veneno petivere, anno regni tertio ferè atque decimo: cujus vis fruſtrata per cibum quo ſe caſu repleverat; cum tandem alvi dolorem cauſaretur, auctore medico principe factionis in palæſtram perrexit. ibi per miniſtrum ungendi, (nam fortè is quoq; è conſilio erat) faucibus quaſi arte exercitii bracchiorum nodo validius preſſis, exſpiravit.* Aurelius Vict. Schotti.

He lived 31 years 4 months, reigned 12 years, 9 months and 14 dayes. In him the *Ælian* together with the *Aurelian* family was extinguiſhed, as the *Julian* in *Nero. Triſtan.*

How joyful his death was both to Senate and people, their aſſemblies in the Temples

Temples to give thanks for their deliverance, and their execrations pronounced againſt him, at large reported by *Lampridius*, do manifeſt.

He was counted *an enemy of mankind*, both while he lived and after his death. *Oroſius, Eutropius.*

The Chriſtians eſcaped * perſecution from him by the mediation of *Marcia*, who favoured their doctrine. *Dio.*

Of all Emperors until *Conſtantine* he was moſt favourable unto Chriſtians, whatſoever he was otherwiſe. *Montague's* Acts and Monuments of the Church. *c.* 7. *paragr.* 115.

In reſpect of much perſecution before, thoſe times were called *Halcyonia ſub Commodo Eccleſiæ. Lloid's* conſent of time, p. 599.

* *Quoniam lege veteri in Chriſtianos confitentes ac perſeverantes capitalis pœna fuerat conſtituta*, M. Aurelius *Princeps* εὐλαβέστατος, *ſed hac quidem in re paulo ſuperſtitioſior & legum obſervantior, legem omnino tollere noluit, ſed eam quo potuit modo enervavit & fruſtratus eſt, capitali pœna in accuſatores conſtituta. Atque hæc eſt cauſa præcipua, propter quam imperante* Commodo *& uſque ad edictum* Severi *Eccleſia tanta pace ac tranquillitate uſa eſt.* Heraldus *in Apologet.* Tertul. p. 46. 47.

Redintegrata adfulſit Imperante Commodo Britannis Lux Chriſtiana. Seldeni Janus Anglor. *lib.* 1.

Anno a Chriſto Domino in ſalutem miſſo 183. Lucius *primus Rex Chriſtianus. Etenim* Σύγχρονοι Eleutherius *P. P. &* Commodus Aug. *Ex quo plane fallit Beda, & fallitur in ſuo de hac re* ἀντιχρονισμῷ. *Idem in Chronologia ancillante ad finem* Jani Angl. Britannorum *inacceſſa Romanis loca Chriſto ſubdita*

ſubdita, ſcripſit hiſce temporibus Tertullianus. *Uſſerius in Indice Chronologico Brit. Eccl. Primordiis ſubjuncto. p.* 1079.

Silenus (in *Julian* the Apoſtate's Satyre againſt the Emperors his Predeceſſors) paſſeth by *Commodus* in ſilence, as not worth a jeſt; but taxeth his Father for leaving ſuch a plague after him to the Roman Empire, knowing what a one his Son was: having a Son-in-law *Pompeianus* worthier to rule than this *Phaethon*, and who was able to give better advice to him, than he could give to himſelf.

From the time of this wicked Emperor *Commodus*, to *Gordian* who was the 28. Emperor, greater were the troubles of the Roman Empire than before. Dr. *Richard Reynolds* the Phyſitian in his Chronicle of the Emperors, p. 161.

In his reign there died often on one day at *Rome* of the Peſtilence, 2000. An innumerable company periſhed not only in the City, but alſo throughout all the Roman Empire almoſt, by infected needles caſt upon them by malicious perſons; an evil that happened in *Domitian* his time: but the people of *Rome* thought no peſt ſo grievous as *Commodus*, ſaith *Dio*.

From hence the Roman ſtory proceeds from the golden age to that of iron; ſuch a change there was of affairs under *Commodus*. *Xiphilinus in Marco Ant. Philoſ.*

A Commodo in Conſtantinum Magnum, ſi

unius & alterius principis tempora & merita excipimus, nihil aliud licet animadvertere, quam cædes aſſiduas principum, ſcelera atque prodigia tyrannidis, lanienas virorum illuſtrium, dedecora, vulnera, ruinas imperii; quas auſpicato exortu Magnus ille Conſtantinus pauliſper ſtitit ac ſufflaminavit. Bœclerus *in Epiſtola dedicatoria, præfixa* Herodiano.

His Deputy in Britain, *Ulpius Marcellus*, was ſo vigilant that the Soldiers thought he never ſlept at night; and of ſuch temperance, that he cauſed his bread to be brought to him into the Camp, from *Rome*, that for the ſtaleneſs of it, he might eat no more than was needful. *See* Suidas *in* Μάρκελλος.

Commodus inſequitur, pugnis maculoſus arenæ;
Threicio princeps bella movens gladio.
Eliſo tandem perſolvens gutture pœnas,
Criminibus faſſus matris adulterium.
Auſonius.

P. Helvius

P. Helvius Pertinax,

WAS ſo called either for his reluctance in accepting the Empire, or ‖rather for his *pertinacious* reſolution in his youth to be a Wood-monger, as his father was, when he would have made him a Scholar.

‖ *Quod longè veriſimilius eſt*, ſaith *Bœclerus in Herodianum.*

Yet at laſt he was perſwaded by his Father to apply himſelf to learning, in which he was ſuch a proficient, that he ſucceeded his Maſter *Sulpitius Apollinaris* in the teaching of Grammer: but gaining little thereby, he ſerved in the Camp with ſuch proof of his valour, that upon the death of *Commodus* he was choſen Emperor.

He is reckoned by *Barlandus* among the learned Roman Emperors. *Xiphilinus in Commodo* ſaith, he was ſkilful in Greek.

peror. For the murther being done in the night, *Lætus* went in all haſt to *Pertinax*, and ſaluted him with the unexpected name of Emperor; but he thought *Lætus* was ſent from *Commodus* to kill him, till he was certified of *Commodus* his death, by one of his ſervants whom he ſent to view his carkaſs.

So different was the opinion of all men concerning *Pertinax* and *Commodus*, that many hearing of *Commodus* his death, thought the report was raiſed by himſelf to try mens inclinations; wherefore many Governors of Provinces impriſoned thoſe who related it, not becauſe they would not have had the news to be true, but for that they thought it more dangerous to believe the death of *Commodus*, than not to come in to *Pertinax*, by whom every one was confident that they ſhould be eaſily pardoned, whereas with *Commodus* innocence gave no ſecurity. *Excerpta Peireſci.* p. 728.

Julian the Apoſtate in his *Cæſars* feigneth that *Pertinax* was admitted into the Banquet of the Gods, where he complained of his Aſſaſinates. *Nemeſis* commiſerating him, ſaith they ſhall have ſmall joy thereof; yet charged him that he ſeemed to be conſcious of *Commodus* his death, or at leaſt to approve of it.

Pertinax was forced to accept the Empire by *Lætus* and *Electus*, when he was above 60 years old; yet admitted not any

any ſymbol of ſovereignty, and declined ſo envious a Title, till compelled by the Senate.

He chiefly refuſed the Empire, becauſe he was to ſucceed a Tyrant, who by his diſorders had ſo impoveriſht the State, and rendred the Soldiers ſo looſe, that he ſaw 'twas impoſſible to avoid a publick *odium*, by the uſe of a neceſſary remedy. *Triſtan.*

He would not let his Wife receive the intitle of Empreſs, nor his ſon be called *Cæſar*, as the Senate had decreed, leſt he ſhould be corrupted, but deferred it till he might deſerve it; not admitting him being a youth into the Court, but cauſing him to lead a private life.

Sufficere inquit, debet, quod ego ipſe invitus regnavi, quum non merer er. Iornandes.

He permitted not his Name to be ſtamped on the peculiar goods of the Emperors, ſaying, "That the propriety there-"of belonged to the State in general. *Herodian.* l. 2. c. 4.

He enacted that all the waſt ground in *Italy* and other Countries (though of the Princes demeſn) ſhould be improved and freely given to them who would manure it: to which purpoſe, he granted to huſbandmen 10 years immunity from all taxes, and ſecurity from all further trouble during his reign. *Herodian.*

He baniſhed informers, preſerved the commoners from the injury of Soldiers, and releaſed all Impoſts exacted by Tyrants. *Id.*

He never could be induced to revenge an injury. *S. A. Victoris Epitome.*

He was too negligent of his Wife *Flavia Titiana's* chaſtity, who openly loved a * Fidler; he in the mean time being as ardently and infamouſly enamoured on his Coucubine *Cornificia. Capitolinus. c.* 13.

He was called χρησολόγος, a giver of good words, becauſe he was rather a fawning than a kind Prince; promiſing well but performing ill.

Such was his ‖ niggardlineſs, that he would ſet before his gueſts a Sallad of Lettuce divided into two parts; and except ſomething were ſent him, he would appoint nine pound weight of fleſh unto three meſſes; and if any other diſh happened to be preſented to him, he cauſed it to be ſet up until the next day. He would ſend to his friends two morſels of meat, or part of a tripe, and for exceedings a leg or wing of a hen. *Capitolinus in Pertinace. c.* 12.

Triſtan paralleleth him with *Veſpaſian.*

His ſtrict diſcipline and ſhort donatives diſpleaſed the Soldiers, who conſpired againſt him, and elected *Falco* Emperor, whom the Senate ſentenced, but *Pertinax* cryed out, "God forbid, that during my "reign any Senator be put to death, "though deſervedly. *Xiphiline.*

Lætus pretending to puniſh this ſedition, cauſed the death of divers Soldiers, that the reſt might mutiny, which they did,

two

* *In matronarum, etiam principum, amoribus, primas ſemper ferunt partes citharædi; adeo per aures ad animum blandè influit vox duplex, oris fidiumque: capiunturque præterea oculi geſticulatione illa manuum irrequietarum.* Gruterus.

‖ *Capitolinus negligentius dicam an ſiniſterius interdum de moribus ejus judicat.* Bœclerus in Herodianum. p. 395.

two hundred entring the Palace with drawn ſwords, whom *Pertinax* was adviſed to fly from: but he indiſcreetly rejecting that good councel, met them, thinking with his Majeſty to make them afraid and leave off their enterpriſe, which fell out accordingly; for immediately they all retreated, except one *Tauſius a Tungrium*, who * ran him into the breaſt, ſaying, *Hunc tibi gladium milites mittunt.*

* *Ter Conſul, Commodi inſidiis eripitur, ac diademate donatur, ſed funeſto, ut quo non totos tres menſes potitus ſit.* Jac. Cappellus *in cent. Eccleſ. Hiſt.* p. 46.

Dio cenſureth him thus, *Non norat homo multarum rerum peritus, multa ſimul tuto corrigi non poſſe: ſed ſi quid aliud in rebus humanis, tum imprimis reipublicæ conſtitutionem & tempus & ſapientiam requirere.*

He having endured all manner of labours, and being bandied from one extreme to another, was called the *Tenniſ-bal* of fortune.

P. Helvius Pertinax, iterum Conſul, & adhuc privatus appellatur, Inſcript. IV. p. 56.

Pertinax, quamvis plerunque virtus militaris in agreſtem feritatem, pacis induſtria in puſillanimitatem excedit, utraq; laude præſtabat, gravis bello, pace prudens. Et audaciam quidem cum virtute, adverſus exteros & ſeditioſos: æquitatem vero cum juſtitia, erga populares & modeſtos adhibebat. Cumque provectus eſſet ad imperium orbis, non ita ſe imparem tali faſtigio paſſus eſt deprehendi, ut modo humiliorem juſto, modo inſolentiorem ſe præberet, ſed per omnia ab initio uſque ad finem æquabili tenore uſus, gravis fuit ſine triſtitia, comis ſine humilitate, prudens ſine calliditate, juſtus ſine acerbitate,

è qua ſimul convellitur id, quod aiunt, *Pertinacem fuiſſe dictum, quod imperium Pertinaciter recuſaſſet.* Chriſt. Ad. Ruperti *Obſervat. in minorem* Beſoldi *Synopſin.* p. 334.

frugalis ſine ſorditie, magnanimus ſine arrogantia. Excerpta Peireſci.

He lived 67 years lacking 4 months and 3 daies, and reigned 87 daies, ſaith *Dio. lib. 73.*

Hujuſdem digniſſima illa vox eſt, quæ aureis literis ſcribatur in omnibus curiis ac palatiis: "*Satius eſt inopem rempub. obtinere,* "*quam ad divitiarum cumulum per diſcrimi-*"*num atque dedecorum veſtigia pervenire.* Chriſtoph. Ad. Rupertus in Beſoldi ſynop. min. p. 335.

His greateſt fault was his ill husbandry; for as trees in their firſt growth are defended by bryars, which afterwards uncut up, overthrow the flouriſhing of the tree: ſo an unlawful elected Prince ſeldome eſcapes pulling down, by thoſe that ſet him up; for covetouſneſs being the cauſe of their combination, nothing can ſerve their unſatiable deſires, nor be thought a ſufficient recompence. Sir *W. Cornwallis* the younger in his *Encomium* of *Julian* the Apoſtate.

Pertinacis *Principatus ſolo tempore minor eſt optimi cujuſque Principis regimine,* ſaith *Bæclerus* in his dedicatory Epiſtle prefixed to *Herodian*; adding, *Id quod etiam de Maximo & Balbino poteſt affirmari.*

Being dead, it was decreed he ſhould be called *Divus*; in whoſe praiſe with ingeminated ſhouts, till they were hoarſe again, the people cryed out: *Pertinace imperante ſecuri vixímus: neminem timuimus.*

mus. Patri pio, Patri Senatus, Patri omnium bonorum. Victor's Epitome.

Helvi judicio & conſulto lecte Senatus,
Princeps decretis prodite, non ſtudiis.
Quod docuit malefida cohors, errore probato,
Curia quod caſtris ceſſerat Imperio.
Auſonius.

Didius

Didius Julianus.

Mirè nugantur Georgius Monachus *&* Cedrenus, *qui Didium* παρὰ τὸ δίδυμα *truncupatum* ſcribunt, *quod magna pecuniæ vi imperium eſſet mercatus.* Chriſtop. Adami Rupertı *Obſervat. in minorem Synopſin Beſoldi*, p. 337.

SOLDIERS proclaiming the ſale of the Empire, *Julian's* wife and his daughters, with ſome Paraſites, urged him to accept of the proffer, ſince he could exceed any in largeſſes. *Herodian. l.* 2. *c.* 6.

Sulpitian Father-in-law to *Pertinax* offered each Soldier 200 Crowns, but *Julian* out-bidding him, and promiſing more than they demanded or expected, obtained the Empire of them; who feared leſt *Sulpitian* might revenge *Pertinax* his death, as his Competitor ſuggeſted to them. *Xiphiline.*

Herodian

Herodian juſtly complaineth of this Donative; From this occaſion and beginning, the Soldiers grew every day more ſhameleſs, and leſs regardful of their Prince: ſo that their covetouſneſs encreaſing, and the contempt they had of their Emperors waxing more and more, ended at laſt in their frequent ſhedding of their blood, in hope to have a better market of the next Succeſſor.

Barlandus placeth *Julian* among the learned Roman Princes.

He entered the City, all the Soldiers calling him Emperor, the Citizens neither daring to reſiſt, nor yet approving the election by joyful acclamations, as the cuſtome was to other Emperors; but curſing him and throwing ſtones at him. *Herodian ubi ſuprà.*

He being hated, *Syria* elected *Niger*, *Germany* choſe *Severus* Emperor, who took *Albinus* as partner.

The riſe of theſe 3 Commanders, with the fall of *Julian*, was prognoſticated by the appearance of 3 Stars about the Sun (while *Julian* ſacrificed) conſpicuous to all but the flattering pur-blind Senators. *Xiphiline.*

A boy alſo divining by a looking-glaſs, ſaw *Severus* his advance and *Julian's* departure. *Spartian c.* 7.

Severus haſting to *Rome* was met by Embaſſadors from *Julian* with the offer of half the Empire; which he refuſed, and was

Omittitur in ſerie Imperatorum a nonnullis Julianus, *tum quia malo more imperium mercatus erat, tum quia ſtatim res novæ ipſum excepe-runt, rectoribus provinciarum ejus imperium detre-ctantibus, donec rerum ſumma ad Severum perve-nit. Intervallum ergo illud inter Pertinacis mortem, & Severi initia, certamina potius de Principatu, quàm Principatum habuit. Atque ita habemus cauſam cur & Julianus præte-reatur, & Pertinacis imperio plures adjiciantur menſes. Imperio, in-quam, ejus non vitæ intervallum turbarum poſt mortem ejus exortarum contribuitur.* Bœclerus in Herodianum p. 390.

was by the Senate (who lately proclaimed him Traitor) declared Emperor.

Duo ingentia gravabant virum odia: alterum militum quod eis promiſſa dare non poterat; alterum populi, quod perfidus in optimum principem fuiſſe traderetur. Glareanus in Eutropium.

The ſoldiers diſcontented becauſe *Julian* kept not his Covenant, and hoping to purchaſe favour with *Severus*, ſlew their Chapman in his palace; he thus expoſtulating with them, *Quid rei gravis admiſi? quem interfeci?*

He was ſo penurious, that if any one had ſent him a Pig or an Hare, it ſerved 3 dayes; often ſupping only on pulſe or herbs. *Spartianus in Juliano. c. 3.*

He lived 60 years, 4 months, and ſo many dayes; and reigned 66 dayes. *Dio.*

Oroſius, ab initio Pertinacis ad finem Juliani, annum unum abſumptum fuiſſe dicit, ſenis menſibus utriuſque Imperio imputatis. Quod falſum eſt; vix enim dimidium anni inter initium Pertinacis & Severi interjectum eſt. Scaliger *in Euſebium. Menſes ſeptem imperium tenuit, necem magno emercatus.* Cappellus.

Annus CXCV. tres Imperatores vidit, P. *Helvium Pertinacem,* M. *Didium Julianum, &* L. *Septimium Severum: priores duo paucorum menſium, poſterior multorum annorum fuit.* Marcus Velſerus *Rerum* Auguſtæ Vindelicorum l. 6. p. 136, 137.

He being old, honourable and rich, by the purchaſe of the Empire leſſened his eſtate, impaired his credit, and loſt his life.

Dii bene, quod ſpoliis Didius non gaudet opimis;
Et cito perjuro præmia dempta ſeni.
Tuq; Severe pater titulum ne horreſce novantis;
Non rapit Imperium vis tua, ſed recipit.
Auſonius.

Niger

Peſcennius Niger, *Clodius Albinus* Uſurpers.

ENGAGED both in the war againſt *Septimius Severus*, with like unfortunate event, being both conquered, and having their heads ſet upon a pole.

Niger had his name *à nigra cervice*, ſaith *Spartian* in his life *c.* 6. who writeth *c.* 1. that his Father was, called *Annius Fuſcus*.

Albinus was ſo called, *quod, exceptus utero, contra conſuetudinem puerorum qui naſcuntur, & ſolent rubere, eſſet candidiſſimus.* *Capitolinus* in his life *c.* 4. who confirmeth his relation with this paſſage in an Epiſtle

Miror Onuphrium Panvinium hominem alioqui diligentem, adulterina quædam ſecutum unmiſmata, in ſuis commentariis edidiſſe, C. PESCENNIUS. NIGERIUS. *Urſinus in Dionem.* p. 1052.

Epiſtle of *Ceionius Poſthumius* (Father of *Albinus*) to *Ælius Baſſianus* then Proconſul of *Africk*: *Filius mihi natus eſt, ita candidus ſtatim toto corpore, ut* linteamen *quo exceptus eſt, vinceret. Quare ſuſceptum eum* Albinorum *Familiæ, quæ mihi tecum communis eſt, dedi,* Albini *nomine impoſito. Fuit candore mirabili, & ut plerique putant, ex eo nomen accepit.* Id. ibid. c. 13.

Nigrum Albino adjunximus, quia ambo conſortes belli fuerunt contra Severum; etiam Nominis, quod alter ab albedine corporis (qua, infans editus in lucem, cæteris infantibus rubedine obductis) alter a nigredine colli traxit; quin & exitu ſimiles, nam utrorumque caput cruci affixum. Elenchus MS. *Numiſmatum in* Bibliotheca Bodleiana.

Niger his voice was ſo lowd and piercing, that it would be heard a mile, unleſs the wind ſtood croſs, ſaith *Spartian* in *Nigro. c. 6.*

He would have his ſoldiers when they went to battel, carry neither gold nor ſilver in their purſes, but leave it with the Common-wealth, that the fight being ended they might have it again: or if they dyed, their wives and children might enjoy it. *Id. ibid. c.* 10.

He was a great admirer of *Annibal* and *Marius*; for the *Scipio's* he thought them rather fortunate than valiant: there was no toil he commanded his ſoldiers, but himſelf would bear a part therein, even in carrying of burdens. And yet ſo far from vaunting, as that when one would have ſet forth his Acts, he bad him write of theirs who were dead; holding it a vanity to write of thoſe, of whoſe favour or wrath the inditers ſtood in hope or fear. *Id. ibid. c.* 11, 12.

When his Soldiers mutinyed for want of wine, he ſaid to them, "What need you "wine,

cc wine, that have the River *Nile* to drink cc of? *Spartianus ubi ſupra.c.7.*

That water is better than ours; (for it will feed apace, and therefore the *Egyptians* would not let their calviſh God *Apis* drink thereof.) Bp. *Smith's Sermons*, p. 28.

Idem ob unius gallinacei direptionem, decem commanipulones qui raptum ab uno comederant, ſecuri percuti juſſit; & feciſſet, niſi ab omni exercitu prope uſque ad motum ſeditionis eſſet rogatus: & quum peperciſſet, juſſit ut denorum gallinaceorum precia provinciali redderent decem qui ſimul furto convixerant. Spartianus in Nigro. c. 10.

Vir domi foriſque conſpicuus, imperator infælix. Id. ibid. c. 6.

Niger was overthrown at the firſt encounter of his party with *Severus*, through the treachery of *Æmilianus* his General, as it was thought; and the next fight in which he engaged perſonally, was totally defeated, near the Bay of *Iſſus*, where *Alexander the Great* vanquiſhed *Darius*.

Severus having compelled *Niger's* Captains (whoſe children he kept as pledges) to betray their Maſters affairs, when he had attained his ends, ſlew them & their children. *Herodianus lib.* 3. *c.* 2. &. 5.

Albinus warred with *Severus*, for withholding the copartner-ſhip promiſed him; whom *Severus* feared as a valiant Soldier, whereas he ſlighted *Julian* & *Niger*, who were negligent and luxurious.

Armorum

Spartianus operæ pretium ſanè fecit, in colligendis, quæ de Nigro *&* Albino *reperiri poterant, cæteri enim ſparſim & carptim agunt.* Bœclerus in Herodianum. p. 308.

Prælia Severianorum *cum* Nigrianis *per ſeriem annotavit* Dio. Id. ibid. p. 410.

Non tantam illi conſpicuitatem tribuit Dio, qui modice modeſteque de illo loquitur. Salmaſius.

Armorum ſtrenuus, prorſus ut non malè ſui temporis Catilina *diceretur.* Capitolinus in Albino. c. 13.

Severus regnavit 18. annos, creatus hoc anno 3. Kalend. Octobr. fruſtra renitentibus Albino *&* Peſcennio Nigro. *Et* Niger *quidem hoc quoque periit anno.* Albinum *autem ineſcaturus* Severus, *ei partem imperii offert.* Jac. Cappellus *in Hiſt. Eccleſ. 5. Centuriis ad annum Chriſti.* 193.

Albinus did eat ſo much, as humane reaſon cannot well comprehend, ſaith *Capitolinus* in his life. *c.* 11. In the morning faſting he diſpatcht 500 dryed figs and an 100 *Campanian* peaches, 10 melons of *Oſtia*, and 20 pound weight of *Lavican* grapes, beſides an hundred gnatnappers and 40 Oiſters.

Hoc tamen in eo laudandum, quod averſæ Veneris ſemper fuerit ignarus. Chriſtoph. Adamus Rupertus *in Beſoldi minorem hiſtoriæ ſynopſin.* p. 340.

Albinus with the choice Soldiery of *Britain* entred *France* and near *Lyons* took the field againſt *Severus*; but with no better ſucceſs than *Niger* had done in *Aſia* the leſs.

Severus taking *Albinus* priſoner, commanded him to be ſlain, cauſed his body to be laid before his palace, rode over him, & at laſt caſt his mangled corps (the ſtench whereof could not be endured) into the river *Rhoſn*, with the carkaſes of his wife and children.

Circa majeſtatem Imperatoris infamamur, tamen nunquam Albiniani, *nec* Nigriani, *vel* Caſſiani *inveniri potuerunt Chriſtiani.* Tertullianus *ad* Scapulam. cap. 2.

Of the poſſeſſion of the Eaſt by *Caſſius* firſt againſt *Antonine*, and then by *Niger* againſt *Severus*, and of the Weſt by *Albinus* againſt

againſt the ſame *Severus*, and by their reſpective accomplices *Tertullian* ſaith; None of the Chriſtians were ever found to be *Albinians*, *Nigrians*, or *Caſſians*. That is, they none of them intereſted themſelves in the cauſes of *Albinus*, *Niger*, or *Caſſius*, or were partakers with, upholders of, or ſticklers for them. Mr. *Gee* in *The Magiſtrates Original illuſtrated & vindicated. ch.* 10. *Sect.* 7.

L. Septimius Severus.

HE was one of the 25 Conſuls made in one year by *Cleander*, *Commodus* his favourite. *Xiphilinus in Commodo.*

He was an *African*, of ſo low birth, that, when he enrolled himſelf into the family of *Marcus Aurelius*, one *Pollenius Sebennus* is reported to have ſaid, "O Cæſar I con-"gratulate thy fortune, that thou haſt "found a Father: as if he had not had a Father before, his original being ſo baſe and obſcure; reflecting hereby alſo upon the chaſtity of his Mother. *Triſtan.*

Having

Having aſcended from mean eſtate to the higheſt honour, he was wont to ſay; *Omnia fui, nihil expedit:* I have been all things, and am never the better. *Spartianus* in Severo c. 18.

In his childhood before he was taught Greek or Latine, he exerciſed himſelf in no other play but that which is called in Latine *Ad judices*, being a perſonating of Juſtice. *Spartianus in Septimio Severo. cap. 1.*

He dreamed that he ſaw in one of the market-places at *Rome* a horſe to throw *Pertinax*, who had mounted on him, and to ſuffer himſelf to back him; a braſs Image of which dream remained in *Herodian*'s time. *Herodian, Xiphiline.*

He would be called *Pertinax*, for the reſpect he had to *Pertinax* the Emperor ſlain by *Julian*, ſaith *Eutropius l. 9.*

He was expert in the Mathematicks, a good Philoſopher, and eloquent Orator.

He was ſufficiently learned in the Latine, but was readier in the *Punic* tongue, as being born at *Leptis* within the Province of *Africk*. *Sextus Aurelius Victor* in his Epitome.

Nothing is comparable to *Severus* his conflicts or conqueſts, either for multitude of forces, commotion of Countries, number of battels, length of journies, or ſpeed in marches. *Herodian* l. 3. c. 7.

Magnus revera princeps Severus; *quique ſeveritate ſua reformavit multa in melius, teſte imprimis* Tertulliano *in libello de pallio. quare etiam FUNDATOR IMPERII, in quadam inſcriptione nominatur.* Caſaubonus *in Hiſtoriam Auguſtam.*

This was a gallant, brave and active man,
Yet in his mood of Spirit ſomewhat furious;

Auſtere of life, his viſage pale and wan,
Of labour great, in travel nothing curious:
Of quick reſolve and nimble apprehenſion,
To execute what e're was his intention.
Herodian in Engliſh verſe. p. 61.

His Soldiers endured all difficulties cheerfully in emulation of him, who excited them to hardſhip by his own example.

He was ſo inured to continual action, that even at his laſt gaſp he ſaid; *Is there any thing for me to do?* Xiphiline.

Byzantium was of great ſtrength in the flouriſh of the Roman Empire. The walls of a juſt height, every ſtone whereof was ſo joined with couplets of Braſs, that the whole ſeemed but one entire piece; adorned beſides with Turrets, Bulwarks, and other arts of Fortification. Siding with *Niger* in his war againſt *Severus*, it endured a ſiege of three years againſt all the forces of the *Romans*: during which time the people were ſo diſtreſſed by Famine, that men meeting in the ſtreets, would draw and fight; the Conqueror feeding on the Vanquiſhed. For want of Artillery to diſcharge on the Aſſailants, they caſt down upon them whole Statues made of Braſs, and the like curious imagery. Houſes they pulled down to get timber for ſhipping; the women cutting off their hair to inch out their tackle: and having thus patched up a Navy of 500 Sail, loſt it all by one tempeſt. Compelled

pelled to yield by this misfortune, the principal of the Nobility were put to the ſword, the wealth of the Inhabitants given for a prey to the Soldiers; the walls thereof diſmantled, the Town left in rubbiſh. Yet there appeared ſo much of majeſty and beauty in the very ruines; *Ut mireris utrum eorum qui primi extruxerunt, vel eorum qui deinceps ſunt demoliti, vires ſint potiores,* as *Herodian* hath it.

Inſtead of puniſhing he entertained and rewarded *Priſcus* an Engineer, who did him moſt miſchief in his ſiege of *Byzantium.* Xiphiline.

Entring into *Alexandria* he found inſcribed on the gate *Domini Nigri eſt urbs*; with which being offended, the inhabitants met him, crying: *Novimus nos dixiſſe Domini Nigri eſſe urbem; tu enim es Nigri Dominus.* For which ingenious interpretation of their ambiguous inſcription he pardoned them. *Suidas* in Σεβῆρος.

When certain of his Officers went about to perſwade him to raſe out an Epigram made in commendation of *Niger*, (at the baſis of whoſe ſtatue it was engraved) he expreſſed his diſlike by theſe words; *Si talis fuit, ſciant omnes qualem vicerimus; ſi talis non fuit, putent omnes nos viciſſe talem: immo ſic ſit, quia fuit talis.* Ingenuouſly and wiſely confeſſing the worth of his enemy. *Spartianus in Nigro* c. 12.

The *Nigrians* poſſeſſed of the *Cilician* ſtreights and entrances, couragiouſly

withſtood the *Severian* party; till at laſt a ſudden tempeſt of rain and thunder continually darting in their faces (as if the very Heavens had been armed againſt them) they were fain to leave the paſſage, and therewith the victory to the adverſe faction; having ſold that at the loſs of 20000 of their own lives, which *Alexander* had the happineſs or the hap to buy for nothing. Dr. *Heylin*'s Geography.

When he was Lieutenant in *Africk*, one of his inferior acquaintance met him going in ſtate with his bundle of rods carried before him, and embraced him familiarly as his *quondam* chamber-fellow; whom he cauſed to be beaten, the cryer proclaiming, "Embrace not rudely a Ro-"man Lieutenant. From which time Lieutenants have not gone on foot. *Spartian.*

Plautian his favourite was ſo great with him, that one of *Plautian*'s Officers being commanded by *Severus*, then at leiſure, to plead a cauſe, refuſed, ſaying; *He could not do it unleſs* Plautian *commanded him.* Xiphiline.

Dio cumprimis diligenter deſcribit Atr. obſidionis ſeriem caſuſque. Bœclerus in Herodianum. p. 419.

At the ſiege of *Atræ*, when he had beaten down a great part of the wall, and his Soldiers were ready to enter, he commanded a retreat, hoping thereby to induce the *Arabians* to diſcover that great treaſure there laid up. But his covetous deſign was miſerably diſappointed, for

for the beſieged immediately made up their wall and kept him out. *Xiphiline.*

Being uſed to get the victory, he now reputed himſelf conquered, becauſe he could not overcome. *Herodian* l. 3. c. 9.

When one who lived in *Albinus* his quarters, would have excuſed his forced aſſiſtance of him to *Severus*, demanding what he would have done if it had been his own caſe? *Severus* anſwered; *Ea perferrem quæ tu, I would ſuffer as you do. Aurelius Victor.*

He boaſted to the Senate of his clemency, although he ſlew at one time forty of the moſt illuſtrious perſonages of the Roman Empire, not hearing them in their defence, contrary to a law which himſelf firſt made; proving himſelf thereby truly to anſwer his name; being *Imperator vere nominis ſui, vere Pertinax, vere Severus*: ſo that *Silenus* might well ſay (in *Juliani Cæſaribus*) "I dare not ſpeak againſt him, "I am ſo terrified with his inexorable "cruelty. *Spartianus in Sept. Sev. c. 14.*

Jo. Antiochenus ſaith he was a great Soldier, but his covetouſneſs tranſported him beyond his valour.

He was more covetous and cruel than any of his Predeceſſors. *Triſtan.*

In his firſt Britiſh war he loſt 50000 men, as *Dio* acknowledgeth.

Upon a ſecond defection in *Britain*, he commanded an univerſal ſlaughter of his enemies, in theſe verſes:

——— μήτις ὑπεκφύγοι αἰπὺν ὄλεθρον
Χεῖρας ὑμετέρας, μήδ' ὃν τινα γαστὶ μήτηρ
Κύσσον ἐόντα φέρει.

Let none eſcape your bloody rage,
With terror let all dye;
Spare not the Mother, nor the Babe
Which in her womb doth lie.

Natura ſævus, multis ſemper bellis laceſſitus, fortiſſime quidem remp. ſed laborioſiſſimè rexit. Oroſius l. 7. c. 17. Of his vertues and vices, but eſpecially his diſſimulation, ſee *Brochmands Ethica Hiſt. c. 3.*

Having vanquiſhed *Albinus* and *Niger*, he begun to make a great ſlaughter of thoſe, which had taken part with them. As he was committing this ſlaughter, he ſaid unto *Baſſianus* and *Geta* his children; "I by this means ſhall eaſe you of "your enemies; to which when *Baſſianus* ſo farr conſented, that he adviſed to have even their children put to death, *Geta* is reported to have demanded the number of them that were to be ſlain, which when his Father told him; he asked, "Have "they neither parents, nor friends? when it was anſwered by *Severus*, that they had many: *Geta* replyed, "Then more in the "City will mourn, than rejoyce for our "victory, and you will leave us more ene-"mies than you take from us. This wiſe ſpeech of this young prince touched ſo well the heart of *Severus* (although he was cruel) that he would needs ceaſe from his ſlaughter, but that *Plautian* and other courtiers, which aimed at the enriching of themſelves by confiſcations incited him to continue. *A Diſcourſe againſt* Machiavel

avel *tranſlated into Engliſh. p.* 272. out of *Capitolinus* in *Geta.* c. 4.

For his native ſeverity, *Septimius Afer* was as well fitted to the impetuous diſpoſition of the *Roman* Empire, when he undertook it, as any medicine can be to the malady, for which it is by art prepared. And yet his practiſe (though exactly anſwering to *Machiavel's* rules of reformation) found but the *Mountebanks* ſucceſſe; he cured ſome preſent miſchiefs, but procured more grievous ſecret and permanent inconveniences. The barbarous nations which longed moſt for *Romes* deſtruction, learned the uſe & art of making the *Romans* weapons and artillery, from the diſcontented *Exiles*, which his ſeverity thruſt upon them; nor did *Conſtantine* the great (though *Leunclavius* be willing to preferr the unſanctified *Zoſimus* his bil againſt him, to Chriſtian Princes) half ſo much weaken the Empire, by his largeſs towards Chriſtians, as *Septimius* did wound it, by ſeeking to reſtore, or rather to intend the rigour of ancient diſcipline amongſt modern diſſolute *Romans.* Dr. *Jackſon* of the divine Attributes. *part* 2. *p.* 282, 283.

He gained his ſur-name *Britannicus*, by building, or at leaſt repairing the *Pictswal* between *England* and *Scotland*, 132 miles in length, againſt the incurſions of the *Scots* and *Picts.* At every miles end was a tower, and pipes of braſs (in the wall betwixt every tower) conveyed the leaſt

leaſt noiſe from gariſon to gariſon, without interruption; ſo news of an approching enemy was quickly ſpred over the borders, and occaſional proviſion made for reſiſtance. There were alſo reſting places for the *Areans*, who were appointed by the Ancients (ſaith *Amm. Marcellinus*) to ſerve for foot-poſts, to run as occurrents fell between the Officers, and carry them word of the leaſt ſtirring. Since the wall is ruined, & that way of diſpatch taken away, many inhabitants thereabout hold land by a tenure in *Cornage* (as Lawyers ſpeak) being bound by blowing a horn to diſcover the irruption of the enemy. *Cambden's Britannia.*

It is reported by *Spartian*, that in his paſſage to *York* a little before his death, a Black-Moor with a *Cypreſſe* garland on his head did meet *Severus*, (who bid him, as unfortunate, to be put out of his ſight) and ſaluted him thus; *Totum fuiſti, totum viciſti, jam Deus eſto victor.* At his entrance into the City, he was by errour of a ruſtical Sooth-ſayer (who guided him) brought into the Temple of *Bellona*: and black beaſts, being appointed for ſacrifice, did of themſelves follow him to his palace. Which things, however they fell out accidentally, yet were interpreted as ominous by others in reſpect of the event.

While he lay ſick of the gout at *York*, the ſoldiers ſaluting his ſon *Baſſianus* Emperor, he aroſe and cauſed the principal of

of them to be brought before him, and when they proſtrate craved pardon, he laying his hand on his head, ſaid; *Sentitiſne tandem caput imperare, non pedes?* Spartianus in *Severo.* c. 18.

Per quæ verba affecti corporis impedimento animi magnitudinem atque prudentiam contulit. Quam ſevere igitur arbitrari poſſumus in alterius generis ſeditionem animadverſurum fuiſſe, cum filii dignitatem, cujus poſt ſe cupidiſſimus erat, a militibus privatim procuratam tam acerbo ſupplicio ulciſci vellet? B. Fulgoſus lib. 2. c. 2.

A little before his death he cauſed his *Porphyry* urn to be brought before him, & taking it into his hand, ſaid; "Thou ſhalt "contain him whom the world could not. *Xiphiline.*

He ſaid to his Sons on his death-bed, "Agree among your ſelves, enrich the con- "ſoldiers, & contemn all others. *Id. ibid.*

In relation to which union he bad them read in *Saluſt. Micypſa's* dying ſpeech to his ſons, in which there is this expreſſion; *Concordia res parvæ creſcunt, diſcordia magnæ dilabuntur.* Spartian. c. 21.

By his pernicious advice to his ſons to ſtudy only the enriching of the ſoldiery, he made a breach in the impenetrable wall of the Roman power, as the *Greek* Epigrammatiſt calls it. For after *Severus* his reign, for 30 lawful Emperors, the Roman Empire ſaw in the ſpace of 150 years, more than an 100 Tyrants. The diſci-

pline

pline of the vertuous Emperors occaſioning the wicked ones to mount on the throne. As the tragical ends of young *Gordian*, of *Alexander Severus*, of *Poſthumus*, *Probus* and *Aurelian* manifeſted. *Triſtan.*

A Prince of indifferent worth, had not his vertue ſuffered ſhip-wrack by his affections; *Erant ei filii multo chariores quam cives*: which though a private man may confeſs whoſe Government is but a houſhold, it is a ſhame for a Prince whoſe office as it reſembles the gods in power, ſo it ſhould in being free from partiality. Sr. *William Cornwallis junior* in his *Encomium* of *Julian* the Apoſtate.

He ended his life with theſe words, *Turbatam Rempublicam ubique accepi, pacatam etiam Britannis relinquo, ſenex & pedibus æger, firmum Imperium Antoninis meis relinquens ſi boni erunt, imbecillum ſi mali.* Spartian *c.* 23.

Before he dyed he was ſo pained in all his body, but eſpecially in his feet, that not able to endure the torment, he called for poyſon, which being denyed, he greedily glutted himſelf with groſs meats, and not able to digeſt them, dyed of a ſurfet. *Sextus Aurelius Victor's Epitome.*

The impreeation of *Plautius. Quintillus* that he might not die when he would, having the like effect upon *Severus*, as that of *Severianus* had upon *Adrian. Xiph.*

Some ſay he dyed rather through grief for his ſon *Caracalla's* wickedneſſe, than of any other malady. He

He lived 65 years 9 months and 52 days, and reigned 17 years, 8 months & 3 dayes.

He was buryed in a place near *York*, which to this day is called *Severs-hill.*

It was ſaid of him by the Senate, that either he ſhould not have been born, or not have dyed; having done ſo much miſchief in purſuit of greatneſs, and ſo much good when he was eſtabliſhed. *Spartian.* c. 18.

When he offered to make his Son-in-law *Probus*, Prefect of the City, *Probus* refuſed, ſaying; "It ſeemed leſs to him "to be a Prefect, than to be Son-in-law "to a Prince. *Spartian.* 1 Sam. 18. 23.

He married *Martia*, and after her death *Julia* * *Domna*, becauſe he found by her nativity ſhe ſhould be matched with a King; though he foreſaw not by his art his deſtiny to marry a whore: whom he yet bare with through exceſs of affection, though ſhe was guilty of a conſpiracy. *Spartian.* c. 3. and 18.

He was deifyed after his death by the Senate.

He was the moſt warlike of all the Emperors that were before him, quick of apprehenſion, perſevering in all things which he determined; where he enclined to favour admirable and conſtant, diligent in ſeeking out friends, and liberal in rewarding them: equally vehement towards friends and foes. *Sextus Aurelius Victor* in his Epitome.

He

* *Mater Caracallæ fuit, non noverca, atque hinc ruit commentum illud quo dicitur* Caracallus Juliam *novercam ſuam uxorem duxiſſe: quod nec agnoſcit* Dio, *nec* Herodianus, *qui inter peſſimi perditiſſimique imperatoris probra non omiſiſſent hoc inceſtum facinus referre. Quod ut minus facinoroſum videretur, finxerunt authores iſti, novercam illi* Juliam, *non matrem fuiſſe, ut ſic daretur locus huic opinioni, quam matris nomen prorſus reſpuebat.* Salmaſius *in* Hiſtoriam Auguſtam *p.* 143.

He was the only Emperor created out of *Africk*, ſaith *Eutropius* lib. 8.

Severus *might amongſt the beſt ſhine bright,*
But that he was th' eclipſe of his own light.
Dr. *Holyday*'s Survey of the world. lib. 8. p. 90.

He aſſociated his Sons in the Sovereignty, and declared them Emperors. *Herodian* lib. 3. c. 9. *editionis Bæclerianæ.*

Sed quæ putabat Severus *futura amoris vincula, fiebant irarum incitamenta*, ſaith *Jacobus Cappellus* in his *Hiſtoriæ Eccleſiaſticæ centuriæ.*

In *Severus* his reign the world was ſo looſe that 3000 were indicted for adultery.

When *Julia* blamed the wife of *Argentocoxus* a Northern *Britain*, becauſe her country people accompanied promiſcuouſly (10 or 12 men having 2 or 3 Women common among them) ſhe not ignorant of the *Roman* incontinency, replyed; "We "accompany openly with the beſt, but vile "perſons defile you ſecretly. *Xiphiline.*

Dio writeth that in *Severus* his time it rained ſilver at *Rome* in *Auguſtus*'s *forum.*

O pluviam ſalutarem, & ſupparem illi, quæ Jupiter ad Danaen ſuam penetravit! ſed nimis hic infrequentem inquies. Sed avaritiam tuam effervescentem infuſa hac frigida confutabo. Rore illo argenteo, *addit Dio*, nummos aliquot æreos oblivi, manſit color 3 dies; 4to. quicquid oblitum fuerat, evanuit. *Formondus Meteorolog. l. 5. c. 6. Art. 3.*

Severus cauſed the 5th. perſecution.

Tertul-

Tertullian his book *de corona militis* acquainteth us with the occasion of the persecution of the Christians, in the reign of *Severus*. The Emperor ere he marched into the East (in that expedition wherein he overthrew the *Parthians*) made his elder son his partner in the *Tribunitial* power, & by his liberality pleased the ‖ people formerly inraged with the many punishments he inflicted. By occasion of this liberality, as it seemeth; a Christian Soldier holding a certain garland or crown in his hand, as if it were wickedness for him to set it on his head as the rest did, was asked why he did so, and answered, that he was a Christian. This was the occasion of the Emperors rage. *William Howel* in his *Institution of general History*. lib. 4. ch. 5. p. 856, *&c. Thomas Ford's Apophthegmes*. p. 2.

Persequutio illa exorta est, ob eam sane præcipuè caussam quod contra Principis edicta Christiani *coitiones inire viderentur : quapropter criminationem istam pluribus diluit* Tertullianus *hoc libro.* Heraldus in Apologet. Tertul. *p.* 3.

‖ *Quinta post* Neronem, *persecutione* Christianos *exercuerit, plurimique per diversas provincias martyrii cruciati sunt. Hinc profanam in Christianos & Ecclesiam Dei præsumptionem Severi, cœlestis ultio e vestigio acta subsequitur. Nam continuo rapitur, vel potius retrahitur in* Galliam Severus, *e Syria ad tertium civile bellum. Unum jam enim* Romæ *adversum* Julianum, *aliud in Syria contra* Pescennium *gesserat, tertium* Clodius Albinus Juliani *in occidendo* Pertinace *socius, qui se in Gallia Cæsarem fecerat, suscitabat; cujus bello multum utrinque Romani sanguinis fusum est.* Albinus *tamen apud Lugdunum oppressus & interfectus est.* Severus *Victor in Britannias defectu penè omnium sociorum trahitur.* Paulus Orosius *lib. 7. c. 17.*

Impiger egelido movet arma Severus *ab Istro,*
Ut parricidæ regna adimat Didio.
Punica origo illi; sed qui virtute probaret
Non obstare locum, quum valet ingenium,
Ausonius.

Bassianus

Baſſianus Caracalla. } } *Antoninus Geta.* } } Brethren

Succedunt duo filii, nihil paternum habentes præter ejus vitia, imprimis vero major. Iac. Cappellus. in 5 Centuriis Hiſtoriæ Eccleſiaſticæ. *p.* 5.

Aſſianus was ſo called from *Julius Baſſianus* his Grandfather by the Mothers ſide, and his Father named him *Antoninus*, out of reſpect to the *Antonini*, whoſe memory was honoured by the Romans.

He was called *Caracalla* from a new faſhioned caſſock he wore, reaching down to his ancles.

He was a hopeful youth, and endeared himſelf to the people by weeping and turning away his eyes, when condemned perſons were caſt to wild beaſts (which tender

tenderneſs *Baronius* thinketh proceeded from his Chriſtian Nurſe *Eubodia*) yet after he was ſo changed he ſeemed not the ſame. *Spartian* c. 12.

He reſembled his Father in conditions, but was ſomewhat ſharper, and ful of threatning. *Eutropius* lib. 9.

Knowing well that he could not make himſelf ſeem more beautiful than he was, he would take the advantage to appear more terrible, affecting a cruel and furious countenance. *Triſtan* in the 2. part of his *Commentaries Hiſtoriques*. See the 12. 18. 21. 26. 29. 31. Medails of him there.

He attempted to kill his Father; and put to death the Phyſicians for not haſtning his death (as he commanded) ſlew his father in law *Plautian*, his wife *Plautilla*, and her brother *Plautus*, *Antipater* the famous Sophiſter of that age, *Cilo* his Tutor, and *Eubodus* his Foſter-father: ſparing not any who either honoured his Father, or was honoured by him.

When at the *Circenſian* ſports (where himſelf was a ſpectator) the people caſt ſome ſcoff at a Chariotier which he favoured, he taking it as an affront to himſelf, ſuddenly commanded his Soldiers to ruſh among the multitude, and kill all who had ſcorned the Chariot-driver. Upon this command, it being impoſſible to find out the delinquents in ſo great a throng (none confeſſing himſelf guilty) the Soldiers ſpared none who they light upon,

but either ſlew them, or took away what they had for a ranſom. *Herodianus* lib. 4. cap. 6.

He put down *Ariſtotles* Schools, burnt his books, ſaying he conſpired againſt *Alexander. Xiphiline.*

Having ſeen the body of *Alexander* the Great, he commanded his followers to call him *Alexander* and *Antoninus Magnus*; and by flatterers was brought to a fond conceit, that he walked like *Alexander* with an awful countenance, and bent his head to the left ſhoulder; and whatever he obſerved in the countenance of *Alexander*, he imitated to the life, and perſwaded himſelf thet he had the ſame lineaments and proportions. *Sextus Aurelius Victor* his *Epitome.*

——— *Simia Magni*
Turpis Alexandri, *cujus dum reddere vultus*
Irarum plenos geſtis, nihil acta moraris,
Acta quibus være meruit virtutis honorem.
Roberti Moore *Diarium Hiſtorico-Poeticum. p.* 9.

I have ſeen divers ridiculous Images, which had one entire body; and one head, which had two half-faces, to wit, *Alexanders* and *Antonines*; ſaith *Herodian l.* 4. *c.* 8.

Caius & Auguſtus ſeveriſſimas aliorum cupiditatibus

He was exceſſively given to Adultery, while able, yet moſt ſeverely puniſhed it in others. *Excerpta Peireſci*, p. 755.

leges ſtatuerunt, quum ipſi interim, omnium, qua venerant, lectorum preſſores dicerentur. Rivius in Juſtiniani *Imp. Defenſione, p.* 99.

Being

Being unable to wear true armour through his weakneſs of body, he wore counterfeit harneſs that none might attempt to aſſaſſinate him, *Excerpta Peireſci.*

Ei cum cætera omnia, tum nummus adulterinus erat: nam pro argento, aurove quod nobis daret, plumbum argentatum, & æs inauratum parabat. Xiphilinus in Caracallo.

He would ſhew courteſie when he intended miſchief; ſo that his kindneſs was more feared than his anger. *Spartianus in Geta c. 7.*

Having miſerably impoveriſhed the people, his mother reproved him, to whom he ſhewing his naked ſword, replied; *As long as I have this, I will not want,* Xiphiline.

Where he wintered, or but intended to winter, he cauſed *Amphitheatres* and *Cirques* for publick games to be erected, and within a while to be taken down again. *Id. ibid.*

He learned the vices of three Nations, from whom he drew his original; of the *French*, vanity, timorouſneſs, and idleneſs; of the *Africans*, roughneſs and wildneſs; of the *Syrians*, cunning and malice: partaking of none of their vertues. *Bæclerus in Herodianum*, p. 433.

He preferred *Hannibal*, *Sylla* and *Tiberius*, before other Commanders for their cruelty; in which he exceeded his Father, and all the preceding Emperors.

He confeſſed that in all his life he never learned to do good. *Xiphiline.*

He abſtained not from killing of men on his very birth-day; and when a vanquiſhed Gladiator ſued to him for protection, his anſwer was: "Supplicate thy "Antagoniſt, for I may not ſave thee. Whereupon the unhappy man was deſtroyed by his Adverſary, who perhaps would not elſe have done it but for this expreſſion, not daring to ſeem more clement than the Emperor. *Xiphilinus in Caracallo.*

He delighted more in Magicians and Juglers than in men of worth; for ſeeing himſelf hated, he told the *Romans* he could command his own ſecurity, though not their love; and therefore he leſs valued reproaches, or feared dangers by their diſfavour. *Xiphiline, Zonaras.*

Yet *Oppian*, who when baniſhed by *Severus* wrote the *Cynegeticks*, and after his deceaſe dedicated that work to *Caracalla*, was therefore called from exile, and received a piece of gold for every verſe in his Poem.

Vixit ſub Antonino non Philoſopho, *quod in Euſebii Chronico Hieronymiano perperam ſcriptum, ſed* Caracalla, *cui & ſua* Ἀλεξιάδα, *vivo adhuc patre Severo, dicavit.* Voſſius *de Poetis Græcis.*

Having negotiated a marriage with *Arduwan* or *Artabanus* (the King of *Parthia*) his daughter; and going to ſolemnize the Nuptials, he was met by the old King, with the flower of his Soldiers, People, and Nobles in their triumphal ornaments. No ſooner was this honourable retinue come nigh *Caracalla* his Army, but

but the watch-word given, the Roman Soldiers (according to their Emperors direction) put them all to the ſword: the King himſelf hardly eſcaping with life.

Antoninus *Imperator, in toga præſtans, & non iners, nec futilis in bello, cum adverſus Parthos armis exerceretur, viſis cataphractis, adeo totus in metum venit, ut ultro ad regem conciliatrices literas daret. Quas cum Rex immodicus animi reſpuiſſet, inſolentia quidem barbari debellata eſt, ſed patefactum eſt, in his tantam ineſſe violentiam, ut ea vincendus fideret, & ſuperaturus timeret.* Nazarii *Panegyricus Conſtantino Magno dictus.* *Triſtan* inferreth that *Caracalla* is aimed at, though not named, no other Emperor ſurnamed *Antoninus*, ever having waged war with the *Parthians*. *Non recordor id in hiſtoricis legere. Itaque fides ſit penes auctorem*, ſaith *Livineius.*

As *Caligula* having killed many *French* and *Greeks*, bragged that he had conquered *Gallo-Græcia*; ſo *Caracalla* having perfidiouſly ſlain a great number of *Germans* and *Parthians*, uſurped the titles of *Germanicus* and *Parthicus*. *Triſtan* in his parallel of *Caracalla* with *Caligula*.

Being incenſed againſt the *Alexandrians*, who traduced him for his fratricide, and nick-named his mother *Jocaſta*, he commanded the ſtrongeſt of them to be liſted for ſervice; whom when he had enrolled, he killed, after the example of *Ptolemeus Euergetes*, the 8. of that name,

In Parthia quid geſſerit, aliter Herodianus, *aliter* Dio *narrat. Certum tamen eſt eum etiam illic perfidia truculentia potius quam virtute graſſatum.* Jacobus Cappellus *in* 5 *Cent. Hiſt. Ec. Paulo fuſius deſcribit* Herodianus *factum crudelitatis & perfidiæ plenum: quod* Dio *&* Spartianus *breviſſimè pe ſtringunt verius, quam narrant.* Bœclerus *in* Herodianum, p. 433.

called *Phyſcon*; giving moreover a ſignal to the Soldiers to kill their hoſts.

A ſlaughter ſo great and univerſal, that the river *Nilus* coloured with the blood of the ſlain, might not improperly at that time be called a *Red-ſea*. Dr. *Heylin*'s Geography.

He reſtored all profligate perſons who were exiled, to their liberty; and preſently after filled the Iſlands where they were baniſhed with more exiles. *Xiphiline.*

Baronius produceth a Medail of *Severus* with *Caracalla* and *Geta*'s heads on the reverſe, & theſe words, *Concordia perpetua.*

The Senate appointing a ſacrifice to the Gods, but eſpecially to *Concord*, for their agreement; a beaſt was prepared for ſlaughter by the Prieſts of that Goddeſs, and the *Conſul* went to perform the Rites. But neither could he find the Prieſts, nor they him, though almoſt the whole night was ſpent in ſeeking one another, ſo that then there could be no ſacrifice: the next day two Wolves aſcended into the Capitol, and were driven thence, one of which was taken in the Market-place, the other after was killed without the walls. This related to *Antoninus* and *Geta*, ſaith *Dion*, lib. 77.

He ſlew his brother *Geta* in his mothers arms, whom he forced to diſſemble mirth; He conſecrated the ſword wherewith he killed him ſequeſtred their goods in whoſe wills *Geta*'s name was found, & ſlew 20000 perſons related to him; ſpending whole nights in ſuch tragical executions. Comdare *Dion* with *Herodian.*

To

To cloke which fratricide with ſhew of conſtraint, firſt to the Soldiers and then in the Senate, he accuſed his brother to have ſought his death, and that in defence of himſelf he was forced to kill him; and thereupon fled to the *Pretorian* bands for ſafety of his life, as though further conſpiracies had been intended againſt him in the City.

Hæcque omnia, probabile eſt divinitus contigiſſe, in ultionem innocentis ſanguinis Chriſtiani; quem Severus *Imperator, ac Senatus, populuſque Romanus, paucos ante annos injuſtiſſime effudiſſent.* Beſoldus in majore Synopſi Hiſt. Univers. ex Baronio.

Notwithſtanding his cruelty he arrogated to himſelf the name of *Pius*; and after his conquering the *Germans*, he was not aſhamed of the title * *Germanicus*, though through the ambiguity of the word he might be thought to boaſt of his brothers murder. *Hemelarius.*

He allowed *Geta* a good funeral, buried him in a ſtately monument built by *Severus*, called *Septizonium*; wept as often as he ſaw his picture, or heard mention of his name: and being told that his Fratricide might be expiated in ſome degree by calling his brother a God, he anſwered; *Sit Divus modo non ſit vivus.* Spartian *in Geta, c.* 3.

For the murther of his brother he was puniſhed with madneſs by the Furies, deſerveply called *Ultrice Deæ.*

* *Erat res ridicula, Germanicum dici velle eum qui fratrem ſuum occidiſſet. debuitenim homo ſceleratus cogitare, multos ſic cognomen interpretaturos, quaſi de ſublato fratre germano gloriaretur, non de victis Germaniæ populis.* Caſaubonus.

Affrighted with the Ghoſt of his Father and *Commodus*, he prohibited any upon pain of death to name *Geta*; and broke the money ſtamped with his *Effigies*, and aboliſhed all the playes inſtituted in honour of his birth-day.

By his Favourites the name of *Geta* was raſed out of all Monuments and Imperial inſcriptions, as we have ſeen ſome of them defaced upon ſome Altar ſtones found in *Britain*. *Speeds* Chron.

Ejuſdem ſceleris principiſq; fuit, fratrem Imperii conſortem, mox juriſconſultum Papinianum licentiæ adverſantem è medio tollere. Jac Gothofredi *Ulpianus*, p. 11.

He ſlew *Papinian* the famous Lawyer, becauſe ſollicited by him to defend his Fratricide, he ſaid; "It was a crime "earlyer committed than excuſed. *Spartian*, c. 8.

He did chide the Executioner, becauſe he beheaded *Papinian* with an Ax, and not with a Sword. *Spartian* in *Caracalla* c. 4. and in *Geta* c. 6. *Xiphiline*.

When he aſcribed to himſelf the titles of *Germanicus*, *Arabicus*, and *Alemanicus*, *Sarmaticus Maximus*, and *Parthicus Maximus*; *Helvius Pertinax* ſon to the Emperor *Pertinax* jeſtingly ſaid, *Add if you pleaſe Geticus Maximus*, becauſe of his brother *Geta's* murther, and becauſe the *Gothes* (whom he overcame in his paſſage to the Eaſt) are called *Getæ*: which occaſioned *Pertinax* his death. *Spartian in Geta ubi ſuprà, & in Caracalla*, c. 10.

Being in *Meſopotamia* he writes to *Maternianus*, to whom he committed command at *Rome*, to enquire of the Magicians

ans (to whom he was ſo addicted) whether any intended to ſurprize the Empire. *Maternianus* writes back that * *Macrinus* treacherouſly aſpired to the Empire; which Letter with others *Caracalla* received while he was at his ſport, and delivered them to *Macrinus* to give him an account of. *Macrinus* broke up the letters, and fell upon that which aimed at his deſtruction; wherefore finding his own danger, he reſerved that letter to himſelf, acquainting *Caracalla* with the reſt. But fearing leſt *Maternianus* ſhould write again of the ſame buſineſs, he reſolved to prevent his imminent danger by this plot. He perſwades *Martialis* a Centurion, and one of *Caracalla's* guard (whoſe brother the Emperor had ſlain a few daies before, upon an accuſation without proof) to diſpatch him; which he * did, whileſt the Emperor was about to eaſe nature.

When he went out of a certain gate, he heeded not the detaining of him, and tearing his garment by a Lion, whom he uſed to play with, and named *Acinaces*; who held him as it were by an extraordinary inſtinct, as if he foreknew the misfortune ready to befal him. *Dion.*

It was but juſt, that he who had killed ſo many of his friends, ſhould be ſlain by the treaſon of his enemies.

Both *Caligula* and *Caracalla* reigned but a little while. Both were killed by military Tribunes, the one by *Caſſius Chærea*, whom

* *Series hiſtoriæ diligenter etiam a* Dione *eſt expoſita; qui in aliquibus variat.* Bœclerus *in Herodianum*, p. 434.

* *Rufus Feſtus* in his *Breviarium*, ſaith he died *propria morte*, differing therein from other Hiſtorians, as *Cuſpinian* upon *Feſtus* ſheweth.

whom he was wonted to tax with effeminacy: and the other by *Martialis*, who was employed by *Macrinus*, whom *Caracalla* charged with the ſame fault. And which is wonderful, they both dyed being 29 years old, and both their Aſſaſſinates were ſlain after them. *Triſtan* in his parallel of *Caracalla* with *Caligula*.

He reigned 6 years, 2 months and 2 daies.

Imperante illo Sarapion *quidam Mathematicus* Macrinum *oſtendit* Antonino *in Senatu, mox imperio potiturum. Verum is, poſtquam demonſtratum minus rectè obſervaſſet, pro* Macrino *alium e medio tolli jubet.* Metochita.

Serapion an Egyptian a few daies before told him, that he ſhould die ſhortly, and *Macrinus* ſhould ſucceed him: for which he was caſt to a Lion, and though the beaſt ſpared him, *Macrinus* would not. *Xiphiline.*

Both *Nero* and *Caracalla* dyed violent deaths, and both had for their Succeſſors old men whom they loved not at all, and who reigned not long, being both ſlain by the practiſes of two effeminate perſons, who were *Otho* and *Heliogabalus*. *Triſtan* in his parallel of *Caracalla* with *Nero*.

Tarantam vocabant eum, a cognomine cujuſdam gladiatoris, & ſtatura minimi, & forma fædiſſimi, & animo tum ferociſſimi, tum maximè ſanguinarii. Dio *Leunclavii in octavo, p.* 904.

When he was dead, it appeared that he procured as much poyſon from the Inhabitants of upper *Aſia*, as coſt 220000 crowns, that he might poiſon ſeveral waies as many as he pleaſed. *Xiphiline.*

Excerpta

Excerpta Peireſci call him *furioſum, ad omnia præcipitem, virtutis, & illuſtrium virorum hoſtem; bonis exitioſum, cædibus aſſiduè ſævientem; prodigum in milites,* φιλαυλον, *rapacem, nec a fraternis manibus abſtinentem; vitiis ſuis gloriantem, omnibus denique terribilem; niſi Germanis & aliis hoſtibus, qui ſtultum ridebant, pecunia emungebant, vel cladibus mulctabant.*

It is to be admired, that a man ſo extremely wicked, tempered himſelf from ſlaughter of the Chriſtians. *R. B.* his lives of all the Roman Emperors, p. 61.

His Wife *Plautilla* had as much for her dowry as would have ſerved 50 Empreſſes. Her Father *Plautian* made men Eunuchs, who were married and had children; and their children alſo were gelded, that ſhe might have muſick-maſters who might teach her the better, and domeſticks of this ſort fitter to compoſe tunes for her.

Diligenter deſcripſit ea quæ ad Plautiani *hiſtoriam pertinent,* Dio. *Baclerus* in Herodiadum. p. 421.

When *Caracalla* and *Geta* would have entred into the aſſembly of the *Gods*, with *Severus* their Father, *Julian* feigneth that *Minos* forbad them, but better diſcerning one from the other, he admitted *Geta* the younger as leſſe wicked, and ſent back *Caracalla* to ſuffer the puniſhments he deſerved. See *Spanhem* the Son's *Remarques ſur les Cæſars*, p. 246, 247.

Abſorpſit Britannicas res abhinc, quæ ad civilem aliquatenus pertinent adminiſtrationem,

new, Lethe uſque ad Probi tempora Imp. Seldeni *Analecta Anglo Britannica. l.*1.*c.* 7.

Diſſimilis virtute patri, & multo magis illi,
Cujus adoptivo nomine te perhibes;
Fratris morte nocens, punitus fine cruento,
In viſu populi tu Caracalla *jaces.*
Auſonius.

Opilius

Opilius Macrinus. and his Son *Antoninus Diadumenus.*

MAcrinus was of ſo obſcure parentage, that according to the cuſtom of the *Moors*, he had one of his ears bored through. *Xiphiline.*

Parentum origine tam ignobili; ut longè aptiſſimè illi aſino, quem a genio deductum in Palatium diximus, aſſimilatus fuerit. Dio *Leunclavii in octavo*, p. 904.

He was made a Prefect by ‖*Caracalla*, after whoſe death he was elected Emperor by the Soldiers, who were ignorant of his treaſon, the ſuſpicion whereof he eſcaped by a ſeeming ſorrow.

‖ Caracallus *omnium duriſſimus, & ut uno complectamur verbo, parricida & inceſtus, patris, matris, fratris inimicus, a* Macrino *qui eum occiderat, timore militum, ac maximè prætorianorum, inter deos relatus eſt.* Spartianus in Caracallo, c. 11.

The

The Romans were ſo glad of *Caracalla*'s death, that they conſidered not whether *Macrinus* was good or bad; *Macrini imperium lubentibus animis admittebant, non tam ſecum expendentes, cuinam ſervituri eſſent, quam quo tyranno eſſent liberati: & quemvis e vulgo putantes ipſo futurum optabiliorem.* Dio *Leunclauii in octavo p.* 908.

He made his ſon *Diadumenus, Cæſar*; ſo * called either from his Grand-Father by the Mothers ſide, or becauſe he was born with a Diadem on his head, like a bow-ſtring. *Lampridius in Diadumeno.* c. 4.

They did nothing memorable by reaſon of the ſhort time of their reign. *Eutropius.* lib. 8.

He commanded *Diadumenus* forthwith to be called *Antoninus* by the Soldiers; and aſſumed to himſelf the name of *Severus*, whoſe memory he pretended to reverence, that he might deface the ſuſpicion of aſſaſinating his Son, ſaith *Triſtan.*

He imitated *Marcus Aurelius* in a ſlow pace and low voice, and *Nero* in a cruel life.

Inſtead of *Macrinus* he was by his own ſervants called *Macellinus*, as one would ſay Butcher, *quod* macelli *ſpecie domus ejus cruentaretur ſanguine vernularum.* Becauſe his houſe was like a ſhamble of murthered men. *Capitolinus in Macrino*, c. 13.

He was named *Mezentius*, becauſe like him, he joined live bodies to dead.

He

* *Ferunt* Diadematum *puerum appellatum: ſed ubi adoleverit, avi ſui nomine materni*, Diadumenum *vocatum; quamvis non multum abhorruerit ab illo ſigno diadematis nomen* Diadumeni. *Lampridius.* in Diadumeno.

He commanded 2 Soldiers, who had raviſhed their hoſteſſes maid, to be ſewed up in the bellies of 2 great Oxen, their heads only left out that they might ſpeak one to another.

He cauſed thoſe Soldiers who committed adultery to be tyed to the women, and burnt alive; though his wife *Nonia Celſa* was inſatiable that way.

He ſhut living men in ſeiled walls, where they dyed miſerably.

Mothe le Vayer in his *Opuſcules*, p. 27, &c. thinketh that one reaſon why *Macrinus* baniſhed *Lucius Priſcillianus* a valiant Captain into an Iſland where he dyed, was becauſe he had the boldneſs to encounter 4 ſuch fierce beaſts, as a Bear, a Leopard, a Lyoneſs and a Lyon; though his cruel carriage under *Caracalla* who advanced him, afforded ſufficient pretence for his puniſhment, as *Dion* informeth us, *l.* 78.

Macrinus ſaid he was clement, when he puniſhed but one Soldier in an hundred with capital puniſhment for a mutiny, when he thought they deſerved to be decimated, or at leaſt one in 20 to ſuffer.

Having written to the Senate, that he knew no body deſired his death, *Fulvius Diogenianus* cryed out; *Yes but we all do.*

Having concluded a peace with *Artabanus* the Parthian King, he returned to *Antioch* in *Syria*, and there ſpent his time in ſenſual pleaſures; being drenched ſo far

far therein, that the Army began to diſlike his government, and to favour young *Baſſianus* then at *Emeſa* in *Phœnicia*, with *Mæſa* his Grand-mother by his mothers ſide: who there had built a Temple to the Sun, and ordained him a Prieſt, for which he was called *Helagabalus*, in the *Phœnician* language, *The Prieſt of the Sun.* To this Temple reſorted many of the Soldiers, and ſeeing his beauty, allured *Mæſa* to bring him to their Camp; where reported to be the Son of *Caracalla*, the Soldiers proclaimed him Emperor, and maintained his right againſt *Macrinus*: who met him in the confines between *Phœnicia* and *Syria*, fought a bloudy battel, but being put to flight, haſted to * *Chalcedon*, fell ſick, and was ſlain by the Soldiers (with his Son *Diadumenus*) becauſe he contracted their pay, and ſuppreſſed their luxury. *Victor*'s Epitome.

* *Die non in loco tantum cadis, ſed in hiſtoria etiam* Diadumeni *variat.* Bœclerus *in Herodianum*, p. 438.

Macrinus a thing made by chance, and overthrown by chance; came from a baſe progeny, and was ruined by an Infant. Sir *W. Cornwallis* the younger in his *Encomium* of *Julian* the Apoſtate.

His fate was foretold by the Oracle in theſe verſes.

Ὦ γέρον, ἦ μάλα δή σι νέοι τοίχουσι μαχῆδαι,
Σὴ δὲ βίη λέλυται, χαλεπὸν δέ σι γῆρας ἰκάνει.

Eſt juvenum, miſerande ſenex, tibi noxia pugna,
Nec tibi ſunt vires, ſeniique gravis dolor inſtat.

Pater

Pater timidus & impudens fuit, qui patem emit a Parthis; honores dedit indignis. Sed nec in filio quicquam, præter pulchritudinem, memorabile. Chr. Ad. Ruperti *Observat. in Synop. Besoldi min. p.* 348.

Cæsus est cum filio, nihil ex paterna claritate præter immeritam mortem auferente. Buſſieres *in Floſculis Hiſtoriarum.*

Macrinus's defeat ariſing from fear, was ominouſly ſignified by a Dove flying to the Statue of *Severus* (whoſe name he aſſumed) when the Senate received his letters. Dio *Leunclavii in octavo*, p. 915, 916.

Laudem Macrinus *ſupra mortales alios inveniſſet, ſi non pro ſe adpetiviſſet imperium; ſed aliquem è Senatu delectum, qui Romanis præeſſet rebus, imperatorem deſignaſſet. Hac nimirum ſola ratione culpam paratarum* Caracallo *inſidiarum* (*veluti qui ſuæ tantummodo ſalutis cauſa, non imperii cupiditate adductus, earum fuiſſet auctor*) *evitaſſet. Nunc autem & infamiæ notam ſibimet ipſe inuſſit, & ſeipſum ita perdidit; ut illa tam contumelia, quam calamitate, digniſſimus fuerit. Nam qui regnum adfectavit id temporis, quo ne ſenatoris quidem nomen adhuc habebat: idem & celerimè pariter & non ſine graviſſimis ærumnis amiſit.* Id. ibid. p. 917.

He lived 54 years, reigned one year and 2 months.

Principis hic cuſtos, ſumptum pro Cæſare ferrum
Vertit in auctorem cæde Macrinus *iners.*
Mox cum prole ruit. Gravibus pulſare querelis
Ceſſet perfidiam. Quæ patitur, meruit.
Auſonius.

Helagabalus.

THE outward form is no ſmall circumſtance to induce the multitude to reverence; ſince as deformity in a Prince hath oftentime occaſioned contempt even to deprivation: ſo on the contrary hath an amiable ſhape ſtrengthened very weak pretentions, and in *Antoninus* * *Helagabalus* was ſufficient title to an Empire, even in a military election. *Habington's Edward* the 4th p.6, 7.

Quoniam tota ſtirps Helagabali *& conſobrini ejus* Alexandri Severi, *magnopere confuſa eſt & obſcura, eam hic proponam. Igitur* Julius Baſſianus *è Phœnice oriundus filias habuit* Juliam Domnam *Auguſtam conjugem* Severi, *&* Mæſam. Juliæ *filius fuit* Caracalla

* *Non ſatis poſſum mirari, quid impulerit hominem alioqui diligentem, & in veterum numiſmatum tractatione verſatum, Onuphrium Panvinium, ut* Alagabalum *in ſuis commentariis ubique edendum curaverit, cum ut ipſe teſtatur, in antiquis numiſmatibus* ELAGABAL. *inciſum obſervaverit.* Urſinus *in Dionem*, p.1054.

calla *qui &* Baſſianus *ex nomine avi materni dictus.* Mæſa Julium *maritum habuit virum Conſularem, ex quo duas filias peperit* Sohæmiadem *&* Mamæam. *Quarum* Sohæmias *quidem* Vario Marcello *Senatorii loci viro nupta filium habuit* Avitum, *qui &* Baſſianus *dictus eſt ex avi ac proavi materni nomine, ex paterno autem nomine* Varius. *Itaque fallitur* Lampridius *qui* Helagabalum Varium *dictum eſſe ſcribit ex aviæ* Variæ *nomine. Nec minus falli eundem puto, cum* Alexandrum Severum Varii *filium,* Variæ *nepotem fuiſſe dicit. Neque enim credibile eſt patrem* Helagabali *&* Alexandri *uno eodemque appellatos nomine. Potius crediderim erraviſſe* Lampridium, *qui* Alexandri *patrem facit qui erat* Helagabali. *Etenim ſi* Varium Helagabali *patrem eſſe ſciſſet, certè id in ejus vita retuliſſet, quo loco cauſas quærit cur* Helagabalus *dictus eſt* Varius. *Ac duas quidem ejus appellationis ibi cauſas retulit, hanc quam dixi prætermiſit. Proinde non dubito errorem illum in ſtirpe* Alexandri Severi *ex ignoratione* Lampridii *fluxiſſe. Niſi forte* Varii *filium interpretari placet, adoptatum ab* Helagabalo *qui &* Varius *eſt dictus. Cæterum naturalis* Alexandri Severi *pater ignoratur. Ab auctoribus autem* Mamææ *filius ferè dici ſolet. Quod in gratiam* Mamææ *a Senatu decretum fuiſſe credibile eſt, quemadmodum patres olim cenſuerant, ut* Tiberius Auguſtus Liviæ *filius diceretur, teſte* Dione. *Avus quidem ejus dictus eſt* Alexianus, *ſi credimus* Herodiano, *l.*5. *idque ini-*

tio nomen fuit Alexandro Severo. *Valeſius in Excerpta Peireſci*, p. 111, 112.

This Monſter had more names and ſurnames (ſaith *Triſtan*) than *Hydra* had heads; for whileſt he was a private man he was called *Varius Avitus Lupus*, *Varius* from his reputed Father *Varius Marcellus* * a *Syrian*, *Avitus Lupus* from *Julius Avitus Lupus* his Grand-father by the mothers ſide; after being preſented to the Soldiers to obtain their favour, he was named *Baſſianus*: by whom when he was received and proclaimed Emperor, they gave him the name of *Antoninus*. He was the laſt Emperor upon whom that name was conferred, which becauſe he diſhonoured, he was called *Pſeud-Antoninus*. He was named *Aſſyrius* (ſaith *Dion*) becauſe he was often ſeen in publick clothed with a barbarous habit, ſuch as his Countrymen the Prieſts of *Syria*, anciently called *Aſſyria*, uſed to wear. His debauchedneſſe made him to be ſur-named the Roman *Sardanapalus*. He had the ſurname of *Helagabalus* given to him, ‖ becauſe he was Prieſt of *Helagabalus* the peculiar god of the *Emeſenes*; ſo ſtrange a Deity, that Authors † agree not about the writing, or meaning of his name: though it be moſt probable that it ſignifieth the *Sun*.

* *Nec debuit* Alagabalus *deliciarum portentum alibi naſci quàm in* Syria. *P. Molinæus in Epiſt. Greg. Nyſſeni De euntibus Hieroſolymam*, p. 26.

‖ *Novo exemplo hic fanaticus, de nomine ejus dei cujus ſacerdos fuit, ſe quoque dici voluit. Quod non minus inſolens quàm ſi Jovis ſacerdos aut dialis flamen ipſam Jovis appellationem ſibi vindicaſſet.* Caſaubon.

† *Mirè variant in hoc vocabulo libri veteres.* Sylburgius *in Indice rerum & verb. Notab. in Rom. Hiſt. ſyntagmate Græco-Latino.*

He

He was the ſpurious iſſue of *Caracalla* and *Symia Syra*, which *Scaliger* rendreth *Lunula Onychine.*

Appellationes imponere a rebus, quæ in amoribus & delictis ſunt, omnium nationum commune eſt, a floribus, ab arboribus, herbis, gemmis, mundo muliebri. Sed hoc Judæis, Æthiopibus, Syris, Arabibus tam frequens, tam vulgo uſitatum, ut earum nationum proprium videri poſſit. Scaliger *in Euſebium.*

He had 6 Wives in the ſhort time of his reign; the firſt of which was *Annia Fauſtina*, of *Commodus* his linage, for the enjoyment of whom he cauſed *Pomponius Baſſus* her husband to be put to death, not permitting her to weep for him. Divorcing her, he married *Cornelia Paula* a moſt Illuſtrious Roman Lady (*That he might the ſooner be a Father*(ſaid he)who was not able to be a man;) yet ſoon after only becauſe ſhe had a ſpot in her body, as he ſaid, he put her away, and ſtripping her of all honours, ſequeſtred her to a private life. After pretending he was in love, he violently took out of *Veſta* her ſacred Nunnery at *Rome*, *Julia Aquilia Severa* a Veſtal Virgin, and married her, which by the Heathens was held ſuch a crime, that the Nun which had carnal knowledge of a man, was buried alive: writing to the Senate, who were grieved at his ſacrilegious act, *That ſhe was a fit match for a Prieſt*, and impudently affirmed he did it, *That from himſelf a*

On a reverſe of *Annia Fauſtina* is written *Concordia*: and on one of *Paula's*, *Concordia æterna.* Triſtan.

Prieſt and his Wife the chief Prieſteſs of Veſta, there might be born iſſue worthy of the Gods. Yet he quickly turned away this Wife, for to eſpouſe another, with 2 more whoſe names are unknown; it being difficult to determine whether he be to be blamed more for his frequent and illegal marriages, or his ſudden and cauſeleſs divorces. And at laſt being poſſeſſed with a continual inconſtancy (having changed 5 times in 4 years) he returned to *Aquilia Severa.* compare *Dion l.79.* with *Herodian*, l. 5. c. 6.

He ſo favoured *Aurelius Zoticus*, that himſelf commanded him to be taken (of all the chief Officers for the Emperors husband. *Zoticus* was ſupplanted by *Hierocles*, admitted to the ſame familiarity by *Helagabalus*, and ſtyled his husband alſo.

Nor did he thus play at faſt and looſe with humane Matrimonies only, but now his God alſo wanted a Wife. Him he married firſt to *Pallas*, after (ſaying, *His God liked not ſo martial a Wife*) to *Urania*, concluding it was fitter to match the Sun and Moon together, making his God almoſt as fickle as himſelf. *Herodian*, l. 5. c. 6.

He gave all the treaſure in the Temple of *Urania* to his God, for a portion with her.

He commanded all the people of *Rome* and *Italy* to uſe all publick and private feaſts for joy of the wedding.

He

He erected in the ſuburbs a magnificent Temple, into which every year with great ſolemnity he brought his God, whom he preferred before *Jupiter*, and made an Edict that the Romans ſhould pray to the new god *Helagabalus* before all other gods, who, he ſaid, *were ſervants of his God*, ſpoiling their Temples to enrich that of his, nay would have had no other gods worſhipped at *Rome*, ſaith *Lampridius* in *Helagab.* c. 3. *Nec Romanas tantum voluit extinguere religiones, ſed per orbem terræ unum ſtudens ut Helagabalus deus unus ubique coleretur.* Id. ib.

Is Deum ſuum circumferens ac reliquis omnibus præferens & Cœleſti Carthaginenſium deæ matrimonio copulans, Ephesiam etiam neſcio quam deam obtrudens, nihil reliqui fecit ad ſummam proterviam. Jac. Cappellus *in Eccl. Chriſt. cent.* 2. *p.* 51.

So inordinate was his concupiſcence, that nature not permitting, what his deſires prompted him unto; turning his luſts upon himſelf, he cut off his privities, conſecrating himſelf to *Cybele*; and charged all to call him *Baſſiana*, inſtead of *Baſſianus*. *Sextus Aurelius Victor* in his Epitome.

Ad ritum patrium, non temere, pudenda ſacravit ſpurciſſimus ille. Seldenus *de Diis Syris, ſyntagmatis ſecundi capite primo, editionis* L. B. *p.* 228.

He was a man for all women, and a woman for all men. *Coeffeteau.*

Non homo nominandus eſt, ſed upupa fœdiſſima, ſaith *Benevenutus de Rambaldis* in his *Auguſtalis.*

He ſo far differed from the manners of men, that modeſty permitteth not to relate his greateſt vices; the Devil in the form of an Hermaphrodite, not being able to act greater lewdneſs than he did, ſaith *Triſtan.*

Lampridius thus beginneth the ſtory of *Helagabalus*: "I would never have wrote "the beaſtly life of *Helagabalus*, that it "might not have been known, that he was "a Roman Emperor, unleſs *Caligula*, *Nero* "and *Vitellius* had before ſate in the ſame "throne.

Boccaline feigneth that *Lampridius* was ſeverely proceeded againſt by *Apollo*, and that by order of the whole Congregation of *Parnaſſus*, his Hiſtories was turned back upon his hands, and he was freely told; "That he ſhould go and "teach thoſe execrable luſts in the pub-"lick *Claſſis*, wherewith he had ſo de-"lighted himſelf to fill his ſhameful pa-"pers, wherein he had written the lives "of *Helagabalus*, *Caracalla*, and other "laſcivious Monſters of Nature. *Parnaſſus* cent. 1. advertiſement 55.

Juan Vaſilowich ſent to the City of *Mosko* to provide for him a colpack or meaſure full of live fleas for a medicine. They returned anſwer that the thing was impoſſible; and if they could get them, yet they could not meaſure them, for leaping out. Whereupon he beat out of their ſhins 7000 rubbels for a mulct. *G. Fletchers* Hiſtory of *Ruſſia*, cap. 12. p. 106.

It is queſtioned whether were greater his boundleſs *Prodigality*, his ſtupendious *Leachery*, or his fantaſtical *Foolery*; the laſt of which his *Imperial vertues* he gave proof of, when he commanded his ſervants to bring him a *thouſand pound weight of Spiders* offering them a reward, & received of them ten thouſand pound weight, whereupon he ſaid, *That now he underſtood the greatneſſe of* Rome: at another time he

caufed

cauſed to be gathered *ten thouſand Mice*, *a thouſand Weazels*, and *a thouſand Polecats*, which he brought forth in a publick ſhew to the people, for ſome wiſe State-purpoſe, like the former, *Speed's Chron.*

He disfigured his fair face with foul tinctures; he ſlept in the day, tranſacted affairs in the night.

Being near the Sea, he never taſted fiſh; nor fleſh when he was fartheſt in the Continent: he ſaid, "That fare was beſt which "coſt moſt.

In gluttony he exceeded *Apicius* and *Vitellius*. *Lampridius* in *Helagabalo*, c. 24.

He ridiculouſly wore Jewels, and thoſe curiouſly engraved, on his feet; as if the rarity of the work could be diſcerned there. *Lampridius* in *Helagab.* c. 23.

His habit was betwixt the ſacred long veſtment of the *Phœnicians*, and the effeminate apparel of the *Medes*, for he ſcorned the *Roman* or *Greek* attire, as made of greaſy wool. *Herodianus*, lib. 5. cap. 5.

That he might ſeem magnificent, he drowned Ships in the Haven; paying the owners for their fraught: and drew fiſhes out of his Ponds with Oxen. *Lampridius ibid.* c. 32, and 24.

He built ſtately Baths, which being but once uſed were plucked down. *Lampridius* c. 30.

He

He received the ſuperfluous burden of his belly in veſſels of Gold. *Lampridius* in *Helagab.* c. 32.

He ſaid, "If he had an heir, he would "teach him to do as he did.

When he was but a private man, being reproved for his prodigality by a friend, who asked him, "Whether he "did not fear want hereafter? *he anſwered*; "What can be better for me than to "be heir to my ſelf?

In confeſſo eſt, Helagabalum *Imperatorem triclinia, quandoque lectos & porticus, omni florum genere ſtraviſſe, ut Liliis, Violis, Hyacynthis & Narciſſis, ac per eos ambulaſſe, ſeque unguentis omnium fragrantiſſimis nudum ſæpenumero peruxiſſe. Quem ſecuti Imperatores, prope nullam molliciem ſibi non permiſerunt, nullum voluptatis poculum reliquerunt inguſtatum. Quod ego in Romanis principibus quamvis damnem plurimum: non tamen admodum miror, cum etiam apud eos abjectiſſimi homunculi idem ſibi indulſerint.* Jac. Graſſerus *in Auctario ad Text. officin.* p. 425.

He conferred honours on ſordid perſons, and put great perſons upon mean employments, cauſing the entrails of the ſacrifices to be born by Generals of Armies, and chief Officers of State.

He advanced his teachers and miniſters of moſt lewd and wicked acts to honours, whiles in the mean time he thruſt down, or murdered excellent perſons. *Holland* in his Chronology, at the end of *Amm. Mar-*

Marcellinus tranſlated by him. *Impuros & flagitioſos homines, item aurigas & hiſtriones, facit Legatos, Conſules, Duces.* Dieterricus *in Breviario Hiſtorico.*

In imitation of *Apicius* he would frequently eat Camels heels, the combs of Cocks newly cut, the tongues of Peacocks and Nightingales, with the entrails of Mullets, Partridges eggs, the heads of Parrats, Pheaſants, and Peacocks, and the brains of Thruſhes and Phœnicopters. *Id. Ib.* c. 20.

He had ſerved in at a meal the heads of 600 Eſtridges, only that he might eat their brains. *Id. Ib.* c. 30.

He fed his horſes with grapes, his dogs with ‖Geeſe livers (a dainty then,) Lions and other beaſts with Parrats and Pheaſants. *Id. Ib.* c. 20. and 21.

The Gooſe is the truſty Centinel of the Roman Capitol,

whom *Helagabalus* hated and the Romans honoured ſo much. *Finch* in his man transformed. 15th Character.

He often changed his Pallets, and lay not on any couch unleſs it was ſtuffed with Hares fur, or the feathers under * Partridges wings. *Id. Ib.* c. 19.

One day he would eat nothing but Pheaſant, another day Chickens, on another this or that Fiſh, at one time Oſtriches, at another Herbs, or Apples, otherwhiles ſweet-meats, or white-meats only. *Id. Ib.*

One of his feaſts was hardly ended in a day, the ſeveral meſſes being prepared, and

* *Plinius pervices promiſcuè iniri fatetur. Forſan ideo libidiniſſimus homo* Helagabalus, *in pulvinaribus culcitriſq; ſubſterni ſibi voluit perdicum plumas.* Sim. Abbes Gabbema *in Priapeia, annexa Petronio,* p. 20.

and eaten ſucceſſively in the houſes of his ſeveral friends, one dwelling in the *Capitol*, another on mount *Cælius*, a 3. beyond *Tiber*, &c. one ſtaying for another, till the diſhes went through all their houſes. *Lampridius*, c. 30.

In paraſitas tantum ſceleſtus nebulo ingenioſus & juſtus fuiſſe videtur, ſaith *Goulartius.*

He tyed his Paraſites to a wheel, and turned them up and down in water, calling them his *Ixionian friends.* Id. ibid. cap. 24.

He thruſt them alſo out of his dining-rooms, which had deceitful floors, into chambers filled with roſes, that ſmothered with them, they might meet with the bitterneſs of death in ſweetneſs. *Id. Ib.* c. 21.

He *Tantalized* them with mock-feaſts in wax, wood, ivory, marble, glaſs; ſometimes what himſelf did eat was woven or wrought with a needle on their Napkins: otherwhiles ſo many diſhes of meat as were provided for him, were painted upon their tables: only allowing them to drink. *Id. Ib.* c. 26 and 27.

At the 2. and 3. courſe he cauſed Bears, Pardals, Lyons and Leopards, which lacked their teeth and claws, to be brought in ſuddenly by their Keepers, to terrifie them who were ignorant of their inability to hurt. *Lampri.* c. 21.

He ſhut them up when they were drunk, turning in upon them in the night theſe diſarmed beaſts, with the fear of which many dyed. *Id. ib.* c. 25.

Their

Their yearly ſalaries were pitchers full of Frogs, Scorpions, Serpents and Flyes. *Id. Ib.* c. 26.

Dignè certè & domino & miniſtris ſtipendia. Jo. Cluverus *in Hiſt. Epit.*

Many times he kept them in their lodgings from night to morning with old *Black-moor* women, whereas he told them he had provided moſt beautiful ones for them. *Id. ib.* c. 30.

When the people had taken up their places before day in the Theatre to behold the ſports, he cauſed Serpents to be thrown among them, whereby many of them were ſore bitten and hurt by flight. *Lampridius*, c. 23.

He to gratifie his mother, did fantaſtically ſet up a Parliament of Women, with ſutable Orders, as how to attire, where take place, when ſalute; but after his death all Women were deprived of that priviledge by the Senate. *Id. ib.* c. 4. and 18.

Solus omnium imperatorum fuit, ſub quo mulier quaſi clariſſima, loco viri ſenatum ingreſſa eſt. Lampridius.

He did drive Chariots drawn by Elephants in the *Vatican*, levelling the Tombs which ſtood in his way; he was alſo drawn by 4 Camels in the *Circus*, by 4 Maſtives in the Palace, after he was Emperor; by 4 Stags in publick, ſometimes by Lions he naming himſelf *Magna Mater*, alſo by Tigers counterfeiting *Bacchus*, unto whom through his exceſſive humour of drinking he was ſomething more like: other whiles 4 naked Wenches drew him, he being alſo naked. *Lampridius*, c. 23, 28, 29.

He

He was addicted to divination by inſpection of the bowels of young men ſacrificed, chuſing many fair Gentlemen throughout all *Italy*, whoſe Parents were living, that their ſorrow might be the greater. *Lamprid.* c. 8.

By perſwaſion of *Mæſa* his Grand-mother, who pretended to free him from cares of ſtate, he proclaimeth *Alexander Severus* his Couſin-german *Cæſar*; maketh him Conſul with himſelf, and adopteth him for his Son: the Senate ridiculouſly voting what he commanded, *viz. Alex. Severus* who was 12 years old, to be the Son of *Helagabalus* that was but 16.

No more than 4 years 'twixt their Ages run,
Yet t'one muſt Father be, and t'other Son.
Herodian in engliſh verſe, p. 136.

He aſſaying in vain to draw his couſen to his unſeemly courſes, repented that he had made him his Collegue in the Empire; expelled all his Tutors from the Court, and put the chief of them to death: alledging ridiculouſly, "That "the Pedants ſpoiled his Son, not ſuf- "fering him to dance and revel, but "teaching him to be modeſt and uſe "manly exerciſes. *Herodian*, l. 5. c. 7. *Lampridius*, c 13.

That he revenged himſelf on none who mocked him upon the reading of *Macrinus* his letters againſt him at *Rome*:

Triſtan

Triſtan imputeth to the prudent moderation of *Meſa* and *Eutychianus*, by whoſe means chiefly he got the Empire, whom he yet put to death with cruel ingratitude, only becauſe he was adviſed by him to reform.

The *Syrian* Prieſts having foretold him that he ſhould die a violent death, he built a rich and ſtately Tower whence he might throw himſelf down; preparing alſo cords of crimſon-ſilk and gold to ſtrangle himſelf with; rich ſwords to thruſt himſelf through; keeping poyſon in boxes of *Emeralds* and *Jacynth*, that he might chuſe a death according to his humour: ſaying, "That however he "dyed, his death ſhould be glorious in "the eies of men, and ſuch a one as none "ever dyed. But he failed of his hope; though not of his deſert; for the Soldiers of his own guard, whom he commanded to make away his Couſin-german and deface his Statues, for the love they bare to *Alexander Severus*, killed *Helagabalus* himſelf in a Privy, whither he fled to eſape them.

His body was drawn by a Soldier through all the Streets of *Rome*, like the carkaſs of a dog, with this military proclamation: "The whelp of untamed "and ravening luſt. At laſt when the quantity of his body was greater than would enter into the ſtool of a Privy, (wherein for the laſt funeral ceremony it ſhould

Hic finis Antoninorum *nomini in rep. fuit, ſcientibus cunctis iſtum* Antoninum *tam vita falſum fuiſſe quàm nomine.* Lampridius, c. 33.

ſhould have been buried) they drew it to *Tiber*, binding it to an heavy weight, and ſo caſt it into the River, that it might neither float above water, nor be buried; he being the only Emperor who was ever ſo puniſhed.

From theſe things that hapned unto him he was called *Tiberinus & Tacitius.*

They did alſo thruſt ſtakes through the fundament of ſome of his lewd companions, that their death might be conformable to their life.

Brevem temporum ſeriem per generationes & regna primus ex noſtris Julius Africanus *ſub Imperatore* Marco Aurelio Antonino, *ſimplici hiſtoriæ ſtylo elicuit, inquit* Iſidorus, *qui his verbis & quintum claudit Originum librum & Chronicon ſuum orditur. Non eſt autem hic intelligendus* Marcus Aurelius Antoninus *Philoſophus*, *ſed* Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, *qui dicebatur* Helagabalus *ſive potius* Elagabalus. *Gerh. Joh. Voſſius de Hiſtor. Græcis. l. 2. c. 15.*

Sir *Thomas Elyot* his Image of Govern. ch. 3.

It is obſervable that notwithſtanding he not only permitted, but alſo encouraged his ſubjects to live licentiouſly: moreover was ſo liberal toward them, that he fed them with moſt delicate and exquiſite meats, gave unto them abundance of money, and all the plate, were it of gold or ſilver, wherewith he was ſerved, to them who dined or ſupped with him, and made many other ſumptuous diſtributions to the people: yet the Roman nevertheſ-

theleſs abhorring in him their own vices, or rather being ſatiated therewith, ſlew him, as is above mentioned, in the * 21. year of his age, when he had reigned ‖ 3 years 9 months and 4 daies.

* *Victor* in his *Epit.* ſaith he lived but 16 years.
‖ *Herodian* ſaith 6 years.

Who does not Commodus *and* Baſſian *Loath ?*
Heliogabalus *was Himſelf and Both !*
Dr. *Holyday* his Survey of the World. p. 90.

Alexander Severus.

HE was named *Alexander*, * becauſe he was born in the Temple of *Alexander* the Great, and on that day that *Alexander* died; he had a Foſter-father called *Philip*, and a nurſe named *Olympias*, in alluſion to *Alexander* the Great's Father and Mother. *Lampridius in Alexandro Severo.* c. 5, and 13. who reckoneth 14 omens of his coming to the Empire.

* *Longè aliter hujus nominis cauſam explicat* Dio, *quem vide.* Caſaub.

Of his pedigree, ſee *Helagabalus* in the beginning.

He is called *Alexander Mammæa* from his Mother *Mammæa* more known than his Father.

Though he was ſtrict in his diſcipline, yet

yet * *Lampridius* erroneously affirmeth that he was named *Severus* for his *severity* to the Soldiers. *Tristan* tom. 2. p. 385.

His Mother *Julia Mammæa* (daughter of *Mæsa*) was a Christian woman, and did send for *Origen* to instruct her son in the grounds of the Christian religion.

He was the first Emperor that favoured Christians.

He was the first who received at one time all ornaments and tokens of honour, which he purchased by his honest life and vertuous manners, whereby he obtained such favour of all men, that when his Cousin-german *Helagabalus* would have slain him, he could not for the Soldiers and Senates resistance: he proving himself worthy to be preserved by the Senate and Soldiers, and to be elected Emperor by the votes of all good men, when he was but 16 years old. *Lamprid.* c. 2.

He was then so modest, that when the Senate and people would have given to him the sur-names of *Antoninus* and ‖*Magnus* as principal titles of Honour, he humbly refused them, saying openly unto the Senate; "It pleaseth me not to assume "what belongeth to others, and I find "my self overladen with your love, for "these high names of honour are too bur-"densom to me. Whereupon (saith *Lampridius* in *Alexander Severus* c. 12.) he gained more honour, than if he had taken titles upon him, and from that time he

* Cap. 12. But *Heraldus* in Apologet. *Tertul.* p. 40. saith, *Ab animi firmitudine & constantia* Alexander Mammææ *optimus Principum*, Severi *nomen meruit.*

‖ *Quod ei quasi* Alexandro *est oblatum.*

had the repute of a moderate and wiſe man.

By the counſel of his wiſe and vertuous Mother, he purged his Palace, excluding out of his Court diſhoneſt and infamous perſons; and would ſuffer none in his houſhold but of neceſſary uſe: binding himſelf by an oath, that he would not have a ſuperfluous number of ſervants, leſt he ſhould burden the Common-wealth with his proviſion, ſaying; *Malum pupillum eſſe Imperatorem qui ex viſceribus provincialium homines non neceſſarios, nec reip. utiles paſceret.* Lampridius. *c.* 15.

He was a moſt vertuous young man, and of neceſſary uſe to the Commonwealth. *Lampridius* in *Helagabalo*, c. 13. and in *Alexandro Severo*, c. 4.

No day paſſed, wherein he did not *aliquid manſuetum, civile, pium*; but in ſuch manner that he conſumed not the common Treaſure. *Id. Ib.* c. 20.

He went uſually betime in the morning to his devotion in his Cloſet, where were ſet the images of *Apollonius*, Chriſt, *Abraham* and *Orpheus*. *Lampridius*. c. 29.

He did read much the life of *Alexander* the Great, whom he imitated eſpecially; labouring to be thought worthy of his name, and to excel him: yet abhorred his drunkeneſs and cruelty toward his friends (though the one and the other is extenuated by ſome good Authors, to whom he often gave credit.) *Id.* c. 50, and

He went oftentimes to hear Greek and Latine Rhetoricians and Poets; heard also Orators reciting causes, which they had pleaded before him, or the City-Prefects. *Lampridius.c.* 35.

He would not hear Orators or Poets speak any thing to his praise (counting it folly as *Pescennius Niger* did) but willingly heard Orations of the acts of other good Princes, or of famous Romans; and most gladly such as were made in praise of *Alexander* the Great. *Id. Ib.*

He had the picture of *Virgil* and *Tully*, with *Achilles* and other great persons in his lesser *lararium*; *Alexander* the Great among those he worshipped as Gods in his greater. *Id. Ib.* c. 31.

He was at first harsh, after favourable to Christians, thought to build a Temple to Christ, but was diverted by *Ulpian* and others, who having consulted their Heathen gods, received this answer (saith *Lampridius* c. 43.) that if that were suffered, all men would be Christians, and all other Temples desolate.

He delighted not in cloath of gold or silks, saying; *Government consisted in vertue, and not in costly apparel.* Lampridius. c. 33.

At his table he drunk not in cups of gold, & kept not above ‖ 200 pound weight of silver vessels in his house. *Id. Ib.* c. 34.

‖ *Hoc quis sine admiratione summa legat? nam per antiquissimas Romanorum leges, quæ convivio licuit viviis modum ponebant, centum tamen argenti libras inferre.* Casaubonus.

Lamprid. c. 31 He ſold Jewels that were given to him, counting it unfit for himſelf to poſſeſs ſuch things, as he could neither give to his Soldiers, nor any man find profit in. Wherefore when an Embaſſador had given to the Empreſs 2 unions of wonderful greatneſs, he commanded them to be ſold: and when none could be found who would give as much as they were prized at, leſt any ill example ſhould proceed from his Wife, if ſhe wore that which no body could buy, he cauſed them to be hanged at the ears of the Image of *Venus*: thereby declaring that ſuch things either for the ineſtimable price were fitter for gods than men; or for the unprofitable beauty thereof ſerved only for perſons of wanton diſpoſitions, whereof *Venus* was goddeſs and patroneſs.

Sir *Tho. Eliot* his Image of govern.

He would be ſaluted by his name; if any man bowed his head, or ſpoke any thing in flattery, he was repulſed if his quality admitted of it, or greatly derided. *Lampridius* in *Alexandro Severo*, c. 18.

He would not ſuffer any to come into his preſence, but ſuch as were honeſt and of good report, commanding that none ſhould enter into his Palace, but only ſuch who knew themſelves to be free from vice: cauſing it to be proclaimed that no perſon knowing himſelf to be a Thief, ſhould preſume to ſalute him upon pain of capital puniſhment, ſaying moreover; Thieves only complain of poverty, ſeeking

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ing thereby to hide their mischievous living. *Id. Ib.*

He prohibited infamous women to salute his Wife or Mother. *Id. ib.* c. 25.

He ordered that condemnations should be rare, but reversed not those which passed. *Id. ib.* c. 21.

He was strict in his own manners, wherefore all noble men assayed to imitate him, and honourable Matrons followed the Empress her example. *Id. ib.* c. 41.

He caused the sinews of one of his Secretary's fingers to be cut through, so that he could never write after, and banished him, for forging a false bill in his Counsel. *Id. Ib.* c. 28. *Videsis plura.*

Spectarunt hoc sæpius antiqui legum conditores, ut qua parte quis peccasset, eadem puniretur. Casaubon.

He commanded one of his own servants, (who had abused him by receiving 100 Crowns of a Soldier for a bribe) to be hanged in the high way, wherein his servants most frequently passed to his Manors without the City. *Id. ib.* c. 23.

He used like severity toward Soldiers; for when he heard that one of them had wronged a poor old woman, he cashiered him and made him be bondslave to the woman, that he being a Carpenter might with his trade and labour maintain her: and when the Soldiers were grieved thereat, he perswaded them to be contented, and made them afraid to grudge at it. *Id. ib.* c. 51.

Vix annos viginti natus in summa rerum affluentia, magnoque Imperio, & ipse se egregium militaris disciplinæ exemplum præstitit, & a militibus ut idem agerent, exegit.

Neque enim alio quam militari cibo utebatur, apertoque tentorio ut omnes conspicerent vescebatur. Fulgosius. *l.* 2. *c.* 2.

He ſaid that a Soldier is never afraid, but when he is well appareled, and his purſe furniſhed with money. *Lampridius* in *Alex. Severo.* c. 52.

He would in no caſe permit Offices to be ſold; "For (*ſaid he*) he who buyeth, "muſt ſell; I will not endure any mer- "chandiſe of authority, which if I tole- "rate, I cannot afterwards condemn; "and I ſhall be aſhamed to puniſh him "who ſold what I permitted him to buy. *Id.ib.*c. 49.

He ſo abborred bribery, that if by chance he ſaw a Judge therewith corrupted, he was ready to ſcratch out his eies; and was ſo incenſed at the ſight of ſuch Extortioners, that he would immediately vomit up choler, his face being as it were on fire, and he not able of a long time to ſpeak a word. *Id.ib.*c.17. out of *Encolpius* and *Septimius.*

Prodiit ante annos ferme abhinc centum Londini, libellus Anglicanus Imago Gubernationis *ſeu* The Image of Governance *dictus, quem in Epiſtola ad proceres Anglicanos dedicatoria, è Græco ſermone tranſtuliſſe ſe ait* Thomas Eliotus *eques auratus, atque celebris tunc inter liberatos nominis (de quo videſis* Balæum Cent. 8. ſcript. 77. *&* Pitſæum ætate 16, ſcript. 969) *atque exemplar Græcum commodato accepiſſe a Clariſſimo quodam Neapolitano, cui nomen Pudericus. Autorem libelli aſſerit fuiſſe Encolpium* Alex. Severo *a Commentariis. Et Encolpium*

colpium quidem ſcriptis mandaſſe res aliquas Alexandri *illius ſcimus ex Lampridio qui vitam ejus contexens Encolpium ſemel & iterum adhibet autorem, quo & familiariſſimo uſum fuiſſe ait* Alexandrum. *Græcum puto nullibi jam extare. Sed capite libelli hujus viceſimo quinto, veluti ex Encolpii Græcis, narratur,* Alexandrum, *hortatu* Mammææ *matris, Origenem (qui coævus quidem erat) ex Ægypto accerciviſſe, ac literas ad epiſcopum* Alexandriæ *datas, quibus ei juſſum eſt ne Origenis iter impediret; præfixo qui ad hunc modum ſonat titulo,* Alex. Imp. Aug. *&c.* Alexandro Archiepiſcopo Chriſtianorum in magna civitate Alexandriæ ἰυπράτσον. *Græcum enim hoc vocabulum in margine appoſuit* Eliotus, *ut ſciret lector quid in Græcis reſponderet verbis ſuis Anglicanis* Well to do. *Diſſertationes dein etiam addit aliquot* Alexandri *& Originis de rebus divinis. Sed nullus tunc temporis planè epiſcopus* Alexandriæ, Alexander *dictus eſt, nec ullus ante* Conſtantinum. *Neque aliud quàm Græculi alicujus recentioris commentum libellum illum fuiſſe dubito, utcunque ſanè Lampridio ſubinde ſatis concordem.* Seldenus *in* Interſerendis *ad Eutychium,* p. 174, 175.

When one *Septimius Arabinus,* who in the time of *Helagabalus,* was infamous for bribery, came in the company of Senators to ſalute him, he cryed out invocating his *Syrian* God with other Deities; *O Marna, O Jupiter, O Dii immmortales,* Arabinus *non ſolum vivit, verum etiam in*

Senatu m

Senatum venit: fortaſſis etiam de me ſperat; tam fatuum, tam ſtultum eſſe me judicat. Arabinus not only liveth, but cometh into the Senate, (alluding to *Tully* his ſpeech againſt *Catiline*) perhaps he preſumeth on me, judging me to be an ignorant and fooliſh Prince. *Id. ib.*

He had a favourite named *Vetronius Turinus*, who uſed to be more familiar with him than others, which ſo blinded him, that he by lies confirmed the opinion of many, who thought the Emperor would do nothing without his advice. Which abuſe the Emperor hearing of, uſed this plot to circumvent him. He cauſed one to deſire ſomething of him openly, and after to ſue privily to *Turinus* to help him in his demand, and ſecretly to move the Emperor for him: which being done, *Turinus* promiſed his good will to the Petitioner, and ſoon after ſaid that he had ſollicited the Emperor therein, (whereas he ſpoke not a word thereof) and expected his anſwer; whereupon he received of the ſaid perſon a great ſum of money, which the Emperor knowing, cauſed him to call often on *Turinus*; who, as if he had other buſineſs in hand, only beckoned on him without ſpeaking any thing to him, the Emperor in the *interim* having given to another that which this man ſued for, who grudging thereat, diſcovered openly what *Turinus* had received of him: whereupon the Emperor commanded *Turinus*

rinus to be accuſed openly in his preſence, and all things being proved by ſufficient and credible Witneſſes, in whoſe preſence he had received bribes, and in whoſe hearing he had promiſed great matters: he was adjudged by the Emperor to be bound to a ſtake in the Market-place, and to be ſmothered to death with ſmoke of green ſticks and wet ſtubble, the Bedel being commanded to cry the mean while, *Fumo punitur qui vendidit fumum; He periſheth by ſmoke who had vented ſmoke inſtead of ſubſtance.* But leſt men ſhould think the judgment was too rigorous for one offence, before he was condemned to die, the Emperor made diligent ſearch, and found by evident proofs, that *Turinus* had often and in many cauſes received money of both parties, promiſing to promote their cauſe to the Emperor. *Lampridius*, c. 35. and 36.

Alexandrum Severum *non laudo optimum alioquin principem, qui fumo ex ſtipulis & humidis lignis facto, eum puniit, qui vendiderat fumum.* Caſaubonus *in* Vulcatii Gallicani Avidium Caſſium. *cap.* 4.

He had in his chamber bills containing the number of his Soldiers, with their names, and what time they had ſerved; and when he was alone, he peruſed their accounts, and the number of them with their dignities and wages, that he might be ſurely provided upon all occaſions: wherefore when he had any thing to do with them, he could tell many of their names. When he was ſollicited to promote any one, he marked his name, and then ſearched his books of * remembrance, wherein were the names of them who

* *Pittacia à* πίττα, πίτταξ, πίττακος, & πιττάκιον.

who ſerved him, with the time of their ſervice, alſo their reward, and at whoſe requeſt they were promoted. *Id. ib.* c. 21.

His Soldiers marched like Senators to the *Perſian* war, the Country loving them as brethren, and honouring him as a God. *Lampridius* in *Alexandro Severo*, cap. 50.

In his expedition if any Soldier going out of the way paſſed through another mans ground, he would cauſe him to be beaten with rods, or be drubbed in his ſight: or if the dignity of the perſon freed him from ſuch puniſhments, he would ſeverely reprove him, ſaying; *Viſne hoc in agro tuo fieri, quod alteri facis?* Lamprid. c. 51.

Sandys in his Travels *lib.* 1. writeth, that amongſt the Turkiſh commandments this is one, drawn originally from our Saviours, *Thou ſhalt not do, what thou wouldeſt not have done to thee*: with which ſpeech *Alexander Severus* was ſo delighted, that he cauſed it to be written on the wals of houſes, and to be publickly proclaimed by a Cryer, that all might the better obſerve it. *Camerarius* in his Hiſtorical Meditations ſaith, *Ulpian* hence framed the conſtitution which is found in the *Pandects* under the title: *Quod quiſque juris in alterum ſtatuerit, ut ipſe eodem jure utatur.*

When

When the Soldiers mutinyed at *Antioch*, becauſe he exerciſed martial diſcipline upon ſome of them for debauchedneſs, he ſtilled them with theſe words; *Quirites diſcedite, atque arma deponite.* A wonderful example, they all putting off their arms and ſoldiers coats, departed to their ſeveral lodgings. Then the Emperors guard brought all the Standards into the Camp, and the people themſelves brought all their armour to the Emperors Palace: yet that very Legion which he disbanded, being ſued unto 30 daies before he went toward *Perſia*, he received again, and by their valour eſpecially, he overcame his enemies: notwithſtanding ere he departed he put to death the Commanders of that Legion, becauſe the Soldiers paſſed their time riotouſly at *Daphne*, through their negligence or connivence. *Id. ib.* c. 53, 54.

Herodianus Alexandrum ut ignavum, matrem ejus Mammæam ut impiam, traducit: ſed videtur id facere, religionis Chriſtianæ, cui favebant, odio: cum Lampridius tot nominibus Alexandrum commendet ob frugalitatem, liberalitatem, integritatem, adeoque fortitudinem. Jac. Cappellus *in Eccleſ. Chriſt. cent. 2. p. 52.*

Herodian writeth that the Romans were vanquiſhed in this War. But *Lampridius*, *Eutropius*, *Oroſius* and *Zoſimus* ſay, that *Severus* obtained the victory, took *Cteſiphon* with *Babylon*, and ſubdued alſo *Arabia*.

Fides Herodiani *nutat in* Alexandro & Maximino. *Voſſius de Hiſtor. Græc.*

He ſo heard the complaints of Soldiers againſt their Commanders, that if he found any Officer faulty, he puniſhed him according to the quality of the offence, without purpoſe of pardon. *Id. ib.* c. 23.

He

He made one a *Pretorian Prefect*, who fled to avoid ſo arduous an employment, ſaying; *Invitos, non ambientes in republica collocandos, They were fit to bear offices of ſtate who ſhunned them, not thoſe that ſued for them.* Id. ib. c. 19.

He never made a Senator without the counſel and approbation of the whole Senate, teſtimony of him being given by honourable perſons; but if either the Senators who gave their ſuffrage, or the witneſſes were found to have ſpoke untruly, they were put into the loweſt places of eſteem, being alſo condemned by the people as deceivers and forgers without hope of remiſſion. *Lampridius*, c. 19.

Doctos reformidat, nihil enim acutius calamo rerum perito, is *Goulartius* his marginal note.

He loved learned men, and feared them alſo very much, leſt they ſhould write any thing ſharply of him. *Lamprid.* c. 3.

He feared leſs a hundred lances, then
Th' impetuous charges of a ſingle pen.
Allen's Hiſtory of *Henry* the 7. p. 85.

His Mother *Mammæa* and his Grandmother *Meſa* choſe out of the Senate 16 grave and honourable Peers for his Counſellors and Aſſiſtants, without whoſe conſent nothing was to paſs as an Act of State. *Herodian*, l. 6. c. 1.

He tranſacted no weighty matter of judicature, without the advice of no leſs than 50 moſt learned and wiſe men, beſide 20 Lawyers (18 whereof were Scholars

fars of *Papinian*) of whom * *Ulpian* was chief. Every mans opinion was heard, and what they ſaid was written; a competent time being given each Counſellor to conſider what they propounded, that they might not ſpeak unadviſedly in matters of importance. *Lampridius*, cap. 16. and 68.

* *Ideo ſummus Imperator fuit, quod ejus conſiliis præcipuè Rempublicam rexit.* Lampridius c. 51. See *Ælians* Various Hiſtory, *l.* 3. *c.* 17.

In Law and buſineſs of ſtate, intelligent, learned and eloquent men were of his Councel; in military affairs old Commanders, who had behaved themſelves valiantly in ſeveral battels, and were expert in the ſituation of places, pitching of fields, and preparation of camps; in each matters he adviſed with the beſt Hiſtorians: asking them, what the Emperors of *Rome* or Princes of forreign countries in former times did in like caſes as were then in debate. *Id. ib.* c. 16.

He ſaid, they only ſhould be advanced who could order the Common-wealth by themſelves, and not by Deputies, adding thereto, that martial men had their adminiſtrations, and Scholars theirs: and therefore every one ſhould do that whereof he had moſt knowledge. *Lampridius* in *Alexandro Severo*, c. 46.

When he appointed Governors of Provinces, he publiſhed their names, exhorting and encouraging the people to bring in what exception they could againſt them, and manifeſtly to prove the crime, if there was cauſe of accuſation; provided,

ded, if they did not ſufficiently prove their charge, and that their accuſation proceeded from malice, the accuſer ſhould forthwith be beheaded: for, ſaid he, *Since Chriſtians and Jews uſe this method in ordination of Prieſts, it is moſt reaſonable that the like courſe ſhould be taken in the choice of Rectors of Provinces, to whom are committed the lives and fortunes of thoſe who are under them.* Id. ib. c. 49.

When certain Huckſters and Cooks pretended they had right to a place which was conſecrated by the Chriſtians, and it was enquired what was his pleaſure therein, he anſwered; *It was better that God ſhould be worſhipped there after any ſort, than that the places ſhould be put to vain uſes.* Id. ib. c. 49.

Euſebius in his Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory l. 6. ſaith, that there were many Chriſtians in his family.

He freely lent of his Treaſure to many poor men for the purchaſing of lands, receiving his money from the rents thereof. *Lampridius* in *Alex. Sev.* c. 21.

To many Cities which were defaced by Earthquakes, he remitted the tribute for their reparation. *Id.* c. 44.

He wrote down ſo far as he could remember what he had given to any man, and if he found any to whom he had either given nothing, or that which was not equal to his merit, he called them unto him, ſaying; *What is the cauſe thou askeſt*

no-

nothing of me? Wouldſt thou have me be in thy debt? Ask ſomething that thou mayeſt not complain of me for want of promotion. He gave ſuch things as impaired not his honour; *viz.* goods of men attainted, not being in gold, ſilver or jewels: for that was put in the common treaſury. *Lampridius* in *Alex. Sev.* c. 46.

It was more troubleſome to him (ſaith one) to be aſked nothing, than to give much.

When any one had exerciſed his office in the Common-wealth well, at the end of his term when there was a Succeſſor appointed, he would ſay to him who departed out of his office; *Gratias tibi agit Reſpublica:* and would ſo reward him, that being a private perſon, he might according to his degree live in good faſhion. His reward was in land, cattel, horſes, grain, iron, ſtone, and other things neceſſary for Edifices. *Id. Ibid.* c. 32.

He allowed every Judge of a Province 20 pound weight in ſilver, 6 ſilver pots, 2 Mules, 2 Mulets, 2 Horſes, a Horſe-keeper and a Muletor, 2 Robes to ſit in judgment, one honourable garment to wear in his houſe, one for his bath, one Cook, and 100 crowns; their employment being ended, they were bound to reſtore the Mules, Mulets, Horſes, Muletors and Cooks: but might retain the reſidue if they had diſcharged their office well, otherwiſe they payed 4 times as much as they received. *Id. Ib.* c. 42.

He thought the ſafety of the State depended upon the Soldiers. *Lampridius* in *Alex. Severo*, c. 47.

He gave ſuch lands as he won out of the Enemies hands to his Lords Marchers, and his Soldiers, that they ſhould be theirs, and their heirs for ever, ſo they would be Soliders, neither ſhould they at any time come to the hands of private men, ſaying "They would more carefully ſerve, if they fought for their "own lands. *Lampridius* in *Alexandro Severo.*

He did let no day paſs without exerciſing himſelf in learning and martial affairs. *Id. Ib.* c. 3.

After publick affairs whether martial or civil, he employed himſelf moſt about the reading of Greek Authors, as *Plato de republica.* And when he would read any Latine books, he chiefly made uſe of *Tully* his *Offices*, and his tract *De republica*, not now extant. Sometime he read Orators and Poets, among whom was *Serenus Sammonicus* (whom he knew and favoured) and alſo *Horace. Lampridius* in *Alex. Sev.* c. 30.

In jocis Alexander *dulciſſimus fuit, in fabulis amabilis, in conviviis comis, ita ut quiſque poſceret quod vellet.* Lampridius *in* Alexandro Severo, c. 4.

When he dined or ſupped abroad, he had ever with him *Ulpian* or other learned men, that he might benefit himſelf by their diſcourſe, with which he ſaid; "that "he was both recreated and fed. *Id. ib. c.* 34.

He delighted not ſo much in Latine eloquence, as in the Greek, in which he made elegant verſes; inclined to Muſick, was learned in the Mathematicks; and appointed

pointed the professors of those sciences openly to propose questions at *Rome*, for the information of those who were that way addicted. In divination he was so skilful, that he excelled the *Augurs* of *Gascony*, *Spain*, and *Hungary*. He painted excellently, sang very pleasantly, but never before any, except the Pages of his Privy-chamber. He wrote the lives of good Princes in verse, which he sung unto the Harp and Organs. Sir *Thomas Eliot* his Image of Govern. *ex Lamprid.* c. 3. & 27.

He never had any scenical sports at a feast, but delighted much in making whelps to play with young pigs, in the fighting of Partridges, and in little birds flying up and down. To lighten his publick cares, he had Aviaries of Peacocks, Pheasants, Ducks, Partridges, and Ringdoves; which he so extreamly liked, that he had about 20000 of them: for the feeding whereof his servants provided by sale of their Eggs and young ones. *Lampridius* in *Alex. Sev.* c. 41.

Every day also he did some good to others, in which (saith *Trillan*) he had an advantage of happiness above *Titus*, who could not express the like goodness above the space of 2 years in which he reigned.

Alexander Mammææ *satis copiosa expositione* (*quippe cum tredecim annis regnaverit*) *utique est ad præclari imaginem imperii descriptus: adeo planè nihil desideratur eorum, quæ vel ad educationem Principalis so-*

bolis, vel ad normam imperatoriæ virtutis, vel ad temperamentum ſingularis poteſtatis, vel ad diſciplinam aulæ, vel ad conſilia publicæ tranquillitatis creduntur pertinere. Bœclerus *in Dedicatione, præfixa* Herodiano.

If neceſſity required, he heard matters before day, ſtaying till it was late; never ſeeming to be weary or troubled: but had all the time the ſame countenance, in all things appearing merry and pleaſant. *Lampridius*, c. 29.

He was ſo courteous that he viſited the meaneſt of his ſick friends, deſiring them to tell him their minds freely of every thing, and hearing them attentively; and when he had heard them throughly, whatſoever he found amiſs he carefully amended: and when his Mother *Mammæa* and his Wife *Memmia* blamed him for his great civility, ſaying it made his authority contemptible, he anſwered; "But "more ſecure and durable. *Id. ibid.* cap. 20.

He repaired moſt of the Bridges which were built by *Trajan*, leaving notwithſtanding the name and honour thereof to *Trajan*. Id. ib. c. 26.

In all the time of his reign, which laſted 14 years, he ſuffered none to die, but thoſe who were condemned by law; a rare vertue, and not practiſed by any ſince *Marcus Aurelius*: and there had been nothing wanting to have rendred him a

moſt

moſt excellent Prince, had not his Mother who was (a good woman, but) * too miſerable, ſtained his honour by her ſordid demeanor. *Herodian*, l. 6. c. 9.

* *Mulier ſancta, ſed avara.* Lampridius, c. 14.

Though duty binds, yet herein was his error,
He gave her too much ſway, to others terror.
Herodian in engliſh verſe, p. 136.

When he was paſſing along in his expedition againſt the Germans through *France*, a *Druid* woman cryed out after him in the *Gallick* tongue, "Go thy way "and look not for the victory, and truſt "not thy Soldiers. *Purchas* his Pilgrims the firſt part. l. 1. c. 12. p. 101.

Thraſybulus his friend foretelling that he ſhould die by the hand of a Barbarian, he rejoiced, thinking that he ſhould die a warlike death; but he was miſtaken in his interpretation, dying not in war: for the Soldiers enraged with his diſcipline, and his Mother *Mammæa*'s covetouſneſs, ſlew them both near *Mentz* in * *Germany*, by the inſtigation of *Maximinus* a Muletor whom he had raiſed.

* *Quod Lampridius* Alexandrum *occiſum refert in Britannia vel in Gallia, videtur hinc natum, quod conſilium in Britannia captum, & quidem hoc, ut videtur, anno, proxime ſequente peractum eſt in Gallia.* Jac. Cappellus *in* 5 *Centuriis. ad an. Dom.* 234.

Herodianus VI. Maximinum *ait imperium uſurpaſſe primum: deinde* Alexandrum *cum matre ſua necaſſe; in quo a Lampridio diſcrepat.* Petavius *De Doctrina Temporum*, lib. 13. p. 699.

This end had both the Mother and the Son,
A gentle Prince of mild and temperate raign;
His edict was, none ſhould to death be done,
Except the law did firſt inflict the pain:

His rule and he much longer might have laſted,
Had not his Mother thus his honour blaſted.
Herodian in engliſh verſe p. 155.

S. Aurelius Victor ſaith that when *Alexander* ſaw himſelf forſaken of his guard, he cryed out upon her which gave him his life, as the cauſe of his death; adding that *Mammæa* had reduced her ſon to ſuch an extremity by her ſparing humor, who if never ſo little was left at their overfrugal table; reſerved it till another time.

——— *Civilibus occidit armis,*
Maternaſque cadens incuſat ſerius artes.
Piarium Hiſtorico-poet. l. 3. p. 32.

Matris cultu plus quam pius. Aur. Vict.

Verè Mammæus *à ſtudio in matrem* Mammæam, *ex cujus arbitrio & conſilio multa adminiſtrat infeliciter & cum proprio exitio.* Dietericus *in Breviario hiſtorico.*

Julian bringeth in *Silenus, Jupiter's* buffon, thus deriding him: *O te hominem amentiſſimum, & nullius plane conſilii! qui ad tantum dignitatis faſtigium elatus, tuas res ex animi tui ſententia non adminiſtraſti, ſed tuas pecunias matri commiſiſti, neque tibi in mentem venit, longe ſatius & utilius eſſe eas amicis impartiri, quam ſibi recondere.*

He lived 29 years 11 months and 7 daies, and reigned (ſaith *Lampridius*) 13 years and 9 daies.

Quibus Conſulibus natus ſit Alexander, *legiſſe me non memini, inter hiſtoricos quidem omnes*

omnes eum constat occisum fuisse anno Imperii tertio decimo: sed quoto ætatis anno ambiguum. Apud Lampridium enim invenies, an. 29, in Victoris *vero Epitome 26, ex quibus tamen numeris, si tredecim annos imperii deduxeris,* Alexandrum *rerum potiri cœpisse anno ætatis sexto decimo aut decimo tertio colliges: nisi & illi quoque numeri utrique falsi sint.* Vinetus *in* Eutropium.

He found his real Sepulchre in *Rome*, but his empty grave in *Gallia*. Dr *Brown*'s Urn-burial. p. 41.

He is the more to be honoured and admired, since being come of uncertain lineage, born far from *Rome*, and in so barbarous a Country as *Syria*, he so well governed the Roman Empire, which before his time was extremely corrupted with detestable vices. *See* Lamprid. c. 66, *&c.*

Dio was contemporary and Consul with *Alexander*, with whom he endeth his history, of which *Bussieres* in his *Flosculi historici* passeth this censure; *Tunc* Dio Cassius *principi charus & fastis insertus, inauguravit literas trabea; Romanæ Græcus scriptor historiæ perquam accuratus, quam tamen negligentia temporum perdidit, dum studiosa brevitatis in* Xiphilino, *ignorantiam fovet, & umbram amans corpus amittit.*

Dio Cassius Coccejanus *historicus prudentissimus, & immerito a* J. Lipsio *in Catalogo prudentiæ Doctorum* [*in not. ad polit.*] *præteritus.* Forstnerus *ad Tacitum*, p. 101.

Dio Cassius in *Casaubons* opinion, the most accurate Historian, saith *Bolton* in his *Nero Cæsar*, p. 233.

Sub eodem principe floruit Herodianus, *qui Græcè quoque scripsit historiam paucioru*m *quidem quàm Cassius annorum, sed admodum judicioſam & elegantem, a Commodo, qui regnare cœpit anno V. C. 933. ad* Maximinum, *qui periit anno* 990. Jac. Cappellus p. 8. *præfationis, præfixæ Centuriis quinque Eccleſiaſticæ Hiſtoriæ.*

Dioni & Tacito, *non contextu tantum operis, ſed pragmaticæ gravitatis comparatione adjungendus.* Bœclerus *in Epiſtola Dedicatoria, præfixa* Herodiano.

Sub eoque vixit Ælianus, *qui de Varia Hiſtoria ſcripſit.* Beſoldus *in majore Synopſi Hiſtoriæ univerſæ.*

The Perſian State Alexander *o'rethrew*;
Rome's Alexander *did himſelf ſubdue.*
Dr. *Holyday's* Survey of the world. *lib.* 8.

Maximinus.

Maximinus and his Son *Maximus*.

Maximinus ſpent his youth in keeping cattel, yet was advanced afterward for his ‖ ſtature which exceeded 8 foot by 6 fingers. *Capitolinus in Maxim.* c. 1. and in *Maximino jun.* c. 2. [*Parſons* by trade a Black-ſmith, the Kings Porter (*anno* 1624.) was found by juſt meaſure to be 7 foot and 2 inches. And I hear that a Welſh-man lately entertained by the Prince in the like place, outſtrips the Smith in height by 5 inches, yet is ſtill growing, ſo as in time he may well come unto 8 foot. Dr. *Hakewil* in his Apology, l. 3. c. 3. ſect. 3.]

His body was ſo great that his Wifes bracelet ſerved him for a ring. *Capitolinus* in *Maximino*, c. 6. His

‖ *Ego (ut autopſiam, cui magna ſolet eſſe fides, teſtem faciam) Belgam (Antwerpianum ſe ferebat) in Galliis*, Anno 1583. *vidi novem pedes altitudine excedentem.* Merula *Coſmographiæ parte prima*, l. 3. c. 14.

His ſtomach was anſwerable; he eating daily 40, ſometimes 60 pound weight of fleſh; and drinking 6 gallons of wine. *Id. Ibid.* c. 4.

His ſtrength was ſutable; he being able to draw Wains loaden with his hands; to ſtrike out the teeth of a horſe with his fiſt, to break his thighs with a kick; to crumble *tophy* ſtones between his fingers, and to cleave young Trees: for which he was called *Hercules*, *Antæus*, and *Milo*; as *Achilles*, *Hector* and *Ajax*, for his valour. *Id. ib.* c. 6. and 8.

Eodem tempore, quo Maximinus *ſuæ monſtroſæ fortitudinis opera hinc inde exercebat, ille admirandi roboris gigas Starcatherus pugil Sueticus (cujus paulo ante meminimus) aliique quam plurimi, in prima Gothorum patria oditis ubique clariſſimis & memorabilibus facinoribus viguerunt.* Olaus Magnus *fol.* 445.

Sept. Severus celebrating the birth-day of his Son *Geta* with military ſports, gave the winners for a reward jewels, collars, bracelets, belts; *Maximinus* who was newly come to the army, and could ſcarce ſpeak *Latine* came before him, entreating his leave that he might put forth himſelf in theſe exerciſes. *Severus* wondring at the greatneſs of his body, granted his requeſt; but upon condition, that he ſhould not encounter with any Soldier, * but with ſuch as were water-bearers and ſervitors of the Camp, among which were very ſtrong and ſtout men. *Maximinus* overcame 16 of them before he reſted, receiving ſo many ſmaller rewards, but not ſuch as were given to the Soldiers; and was liſted for ſervice. Three daies after the Emperor riding to view his Camp, ſaw *Maximinus* (who was yet but a freſh water-ſoldier) out of order; wherefore he

* *Nequid à rudi homine militaribus viris veniret injuria*, ſaith *Jornandes in Geticis*, c. 15.

he commanded a Colonel to call him into his rank, and to inſtruct him in the duty he was to obſerve in the Wars: *Maximinus* imagining the Emperor ſpake of him, kneeled down at his feet. The Emperor deſiring to ſee whether he could run well or no, ſpurred his horſe and took ſeveral turns in the field; and ſeeing *Maximinus* left not off running, old *Severus* being tired ſaid to *Maximinus*, "*Thracian*, will "you wreſtle after your race? whereto he anſwered, "So long as it ſhall pleaſe your "Majeſty. Then the Emperor chuſing 7 of the ſtrongeſt men in his army, *Maximinus* overcame them without reſting between. Whereupon *Severus* commanded a collar of gold to be given to him alone, with certain pieces of ſilver; made him one of his guard, and commanded that he ſhould continually attend in the Palace: by which means he came to be eſteemed by the Commanders and Soldiers, and to obtain what he deſired of the Emperor. *Id. Ib.* c. 2, 3.

He was diligent as well after, as before his preferment, ſaying; *Ego quo major fuero, tanto plus laborabo*: and rather than his Soldiers ſhould be out of action, he employed them in hunting.

Even in his old age he would throw down 5, 6, or 7 Soldiers (whom he wreſtled with) one after another; and being challenged by a Tribune who envied him, when they met, *Maximinus* gave him ſuch

a blow on the breſt with the palm of his hand, that he threw him flat upon his back, ſaying in ſport; *Date alium, ſed Tribunum.* Id. ib. c. 6.

Caracalla made *Maximinus* a Centurion; (in *Macrinus* his reign he left the army out of hatred to the aſſaſinate of his Sovereign;) even *Helagabalus* permitted him to be a Tribune: but *Alexander Severus* gave him the command of a Legion, whoſe death notwithſtanding he diſloyally practiſed (as is before mentioned;) whereupon he was elected Emperor by the Soldiers, without the conſent of the Senate. *Id. ibid.* c. 4, 5, 7, 8.

It appeareth unqueſtionably that he committed this villany (notwithſtanding the doubts of ſome) becauſe he killed all *Alexanders* relations and friends. *Triſtan.*

He arrogantly uſurped the names of *Cajus Julius Verus*, and the proud Epithets of *Invictus*, *Fortiſſimus* and *Nobiliſſimus*; notwithſtanding his ignoble extraction. *Triſtan.*

He ſuffered no noble perſon to be about him, and out of a deſire to conceal the baſeneſs of his birth, ſlew even the beſt of his friends who were conſcious of it. *Lampridius*, c. 19.

His tyranny cauſed many to conſpire againſt him, which he diſcovering, took an occaſion to renew his cruelty.

Maximinus firſt thanked *Macedonius*, who treacherouſly ſlew *Tycus* that had rebelled

belled againſt him, but afterward put him to death as a Traitor. *Capitolinus*, c. 11. *Præclarum tyranni factum, & verè ſingulare, nam tota vita unicum hoc laude dignum.* Elenchus MS Numiſmatum *in Bibliotheca Bodleiana.*

He ſlew all of the faction of his adverſary *Magnus* without any judicial proceſs, not ſatisfied with the ſlaughter of above 4000. *Capitolinus*, c. 10.

Maximino *imperium jam conſtabilitum obtinente, gravis omnes inceſſit pœnitentia, quod acerbam tyrannidem moderato cum imperio commutaſſent.* Zoſimus, *lib.* 1.

Maximus Pupienus (who made preparations at *Ravenna* to wage war againſt him by the Senates appointment) was exceedingly afraid of him, ſaying often; that he was not engaged againſt a man, but a *Cyclops*: and *Balbinus* (who was made his Collegue in the Empire by the Senate, and ſtaid at *Rome*) trembled at the naming of him.

He was ſo feared at *Rome*, that when he was in *Italy*, the women with their children prayed ſolemnly in their Temples that he might never return; having heard that ſome were crucified by him, ſome incloſed in beaſts newly killed, others caſt to wild beaſts, others bruiſed with clubs, without any regard to the quality of perſons. *Id. ibid.* c. 8.

For his cruelty (which he thought neceſſary for his ſecurity) he was hated, and called *Cyclops*, *Buſiris*, *Scyron*, *Phalaris*, *Typhon*, and *Gyges*. Id. ib. and c. 9.

He was ſo infatuated with the confidence of his own greatneſs & perſonal ſtrength, that

that he entertained a conceit, that death durſt not adventure to encounter him, for fear of having his Javelin broke about his own crazy skull, and all his *Skeleton* of bones rattled to duſt. Dr. *Charleton's* Darkneſs of Atheiſm diſpelled by the light of nature, p. 178.

Becauſe he thought himſelf immortal, he was covertly defied in the *Theatre* by a *Comœdian* in theſe verſes:

Qui ab uno non poteſt occidi, à multis occiditur:
Elephas grandis eſt, & occiditur:
Leo Fortis eſt, & occiditur:
Tigris fortis eſt, & occiditur:
Cave multos, ſi ſingulos non times.
Capitolinus, c. 9.

What was ſpoken in ſport, befel him in earneſt; for *Maximinus* haſting with his army towards *Rome* to be revenged of the Senate which intended reſiſtance, was oppoſed at *Aquileja*, where women made bow-ſtrings of their hair to ſhoot againſt him; at which repulſe he became ſo furious that he killed many of his own Soldiers, wherewith the reſt being enraged ſlew him and his Son, ſaying; *Canis peſſimi ne catulus quidem relinquendus: Of a bad litter not a whelp is to be left.*

Capitolinus in Maximino jun. & in Maximo & Balbino.

He was 65 years old when he dyed, and his Son 21.

The time of their reign is not agreed upon.

The Meſſenger who brought word of their death, came from *Aquileja* to *Rome*

(798

(798 miles) in 4 daies. *Capitolinus*, c. 25. *Magna ſane diligentia: ſed non incredibilis; cum ſimilis celeritatis aut etiam majoris exempla & apud veteres legantur, & hodieque edi ſæpiſſimè videamus. Conſtat hodiernos veredarios Roma Lutetiam ſæpe diebus ſex ſeptem commeare: quæ longè major contentio eſt.* Caſaubonus.

When his head with his ſons were brought to *Rome*, all ran to the Altars to thank the Gods, and *Balbinus* ſacrificed Hecatombs for his deliverance, commanding the ſame to be done throughout the Empire.

Scribit Ælius Sabinus (quod prætermittendum non fuit) tantam pulchritudinem oris fuiſſe in filio, ut etiam caput ejus mortui jam nigrum, jam ſordens, jam maceratum, defluente tabo, velut umbra pulcherrima videretur. Denique quum caput Maximini *pilo circumferretur, & ex hoc ingens gaudium eſſet, prope par mœror erat, quod & filii caput pariter portaretur.* Capitolinus *in* Maximino *juniore*, c. 6.

Maximinus *junior tantæ pulchritudinis fuit, ut paſſim amatus ſit a procacioribus feminis. nonnullæ etiam optaverunt de eo concipere.* Capitolinus *in* Maximino *jun.* c. 1.

Maximinus was the Author of the 6. perſecution, which *Triſtan* thinks he raiſed only that he might confiſcate the *Chriſtians* goods, his ſacrilegious covetouſneſs not permitting him to ſpare Heathen Temples.

Perſecutio iſta ſub Maximino *Imp. poſt diuturnam Eccleſiæ pacem repente obortæ eſt ob frequentes & graviſſimos terræ motus, quos more ſuo Gentiles Chriſtianis imputabant ut teſtis eſt Firmilianus in Epiſtola ad* Cyprianum. *Vide* Baronium *ad annum Chriſti* 237. Valeſius *in* Euſebium, p. 127.

As

As this perſecution was the ſhorteſt, ſo it was the moſt violent; not of the common ſort ſo much, as of their eſpecial Leaders: who were either cut off from them, or hirelings intruded for them, or their flock ſet up againſt them. Biſhop *Prideaux* in his Introduction to Hiſtory, out of *Chryſoſtom.*

Hujus Maximini *monumenta ſunt*, Bracaræ Auguſtæ *vicus & porta* Maximini, *quæ hodie quoque poſt tot ſæcula nomen retinent. Certum eſt Romanos omnes Imperatores tum per ſe tum per magiſtratus, res præclaras in Hiſpania geſſiſſe. Quod tum ex plurimis ipſorum monumentis, tum ex antiquis numiſmatis conſtat. Quæ ego omnium ferè Imperatorum inſignita nominibus vidi, & pleraque etiam habeo penes me, multa largitus amicis.* Vaſæus *in Chron. Hiſpan.* p. 266.

Biſtoniis armenta jugis paulo ante regebat,
Romani frænos qui regis Imperii.
Boiſſardus.

Gordian

Gordian the Father.

GORDIAN the elder was ſon of *Metius Marullus* and *Ulpia Gordiana*, deriving his pedigree by the Fathers ſide from the *Gracchi*, and by the Mothers from *Trajan* the Emperor. *Capitolinus in tribus Gordianis*, c. 2.

His Father, Grand-father, and great Grand-father were Conſuls; as alſo were his Father-in-law, with his Grand-father on both ſides, and both her great Grand-fathers. *Id. ibid.*

He was made *Pro-conſul* of *Africk* at the age of fourſcore, having been Ruler of many other Provinces, and well ex-

erciſed in State-affairs. *Herodian* lib. 7. cap. 5.

De Gordiani dignitatibus, laudibuſque per gradus honorum & gloriæ partis, ut & de delato imperio prolixè Capitolinus in Gordiano a c. 3. uſque ad 9. Bœclerus in Herodianum, p. 452.

The *Africans* ſo loved him, that ſome compared him to *Scipio*, others to *Cato*; many called him *Mutius Scævola*, *Rutilius*, & *C. Lælius*. Capitolinus *in tribus* Gordianis, *c.* 5.

Moribus ita moderatus ut nihil poſſis dicere quod ille aut cupidè, aut immodeſtè, aut nimiè fecerit. Id. ib. *c.* 6.

Populo Rom. ita commendatus ſuis actibus erat ut toto dignus videretur imperio. Id. Ibid. c. 9.

The young Gentlemen of *Tyſdrum* exaſperated by the tyranny of *Maximinus* his favourite (Governor of *Carthage*) ſlew him; and proclaimed *Gordian* Emperor, whom they thought the Romans would like, becauſe he was nobly deſcended: He though ſomewhat coy, yet being naturally deſirous of honour, accepted their offer with a little reluctance: chuſing rather to avoid the preſent, than future peril; holding it not inglorious to die in his old age (if need were) in Imperial robes. Hereupon all *Africk* revolted, and many Cities pulling down *Maximines* Images, erected *Gordians* Statues; whom they ſurnamed *African*: (for ſo the Southern *Libyans* are called by the Romans.) *Herodian*, *l.* 7. *c.* 5.

He baniſhed all Informers, and ſuffered thoſe that were unjuſtly condemned to reverſe the judgment by pleading. *Id. ib. c.* 6.

He

He recalled all exiles, and promiſed to give the Soldiers more than ever Emperor did, and to reward the Commons with an extraordinary Congiary. *Id. Ib.*

Vitalian, the *Pretorian* Prefect at *Rome*, a bloudy inſtrument of *Maximinus*'s, was killed by *Gordian*'s appointment.

Thoſe who obeyed his order therein, gave out that *Maximine* was ſlain; at the hearing whereof, the Romans defaced the Images and Statues of *Maximinus*: hatred (which till then was over-awed by fear) pouring out it ſelf, without ſtop, through the Floud-gates of licentiouſneſs. The Senate alſo conjecturing that it was ſo, decreed that all *Maximine*'s honours ſhould be aboliſhed: and declared *Gordian* and his Son Emperors. *Idem ubi ſupra, & c.* 7.

The Senate at laſt underſtood their danger, better than their relief, *Maximine* his affairs proſpering at *Carthage* unexpectedly. *Capellianus* an enemy to *Gordian*, and true to *Maximine*, defeated *Gordian* his Son (who was ſent againſt him) with all his followers. So great was the number that fell, that the principal perſons could not be found to receive funeral honour, nor the dead body of the young Prince. *Idem ubi ſupra, & c.* 9. *Capitolinus in tribus Gordianis, c.* 16.

Gordian the Father hearing of this, through deſpair ſtrangled himſelf. *Capitolinus, ubi ſupra.*

Sanè etſi uter perierit prior non planè conſtat, ambos tamen in Africa mortem obiiſſe non eſt dubium. Zoſimus *tamen ex aliis ſcriptoribus tradit naufragio utrumque periiſſe, cum ex Africa in Italiam trajicerent.* Caſaubonus.

Gordian the elder lived 80 years, and yet died of a violent death, when he was ſcarce warm in his Empire; A man of an high ſpirit, and renowned, learned, and a Poet; and conſtantly happy throughout the whole courſe of his life, ſave only that he ended his daies by a violent death. Sir *Francis Bacon.*

Eo ſolum Imperator, ne ſua morte decederet. Buſſieres *in Floſculis Hiſtoriarum.*

Gordian the Son had 22 Concubines, by each of which he left 3 or 4 children; being therefore called the *Priamus*, and by many in merriment *The Priapus of his time.* Capitolinus *in tribus Gordianis*, c. 19.

Quidam Sammonicus Serenus *LX. & duo millia librorum cenſuit in ſua Bibliotheca; quam moriens reliquit* Gordiano *minori, a deguſtato imperio obſcuro, ab iſta literatorum ore ad cœlum lato.* Lanſius *in* Mantiſſa *conſultationum de primatu inter provincias Europæ*, p. 76.

Concerning the time of their reign, and *Capitolinus* his error therein, See *Petavius's Rationarium Temporum, the 2. part and 4. book*, p. 200.

Sanè,

Sanè, quod prætermittendum esse non censui, quia mirabile visum est, lectum apud Vulcatium Terentianum, qui & ipse historiam sui temporis scripsit, in literas missi; Gordianum *seniorem* Augusti *vultum sic repræsentasse, ut & vocem, & oris honorem, & staturam ejus ostentare videretur: filium vero, Pompeio simillimum visum, quamvis Pompeius obesi corporis fuisse denegatur.* Capitolinus *in tribus Gordianis, c.* 21.

This is questioned by *Tristan* in his Historical Commentaries, *tom.* 2.

Pupienus and *Balbinus* Collegues.

Maximus *idem eſt, qui* Pupienus. *Quod ignoraſſe* Capitolinum *Maximini junioris fine, plerique miruntur.* Bœclerus *in* Herodianum, *p.* 454.

Triſtis ac ſeverus Pupieni *vultus fuit, quod & nummi antiqui teſtantur quos vidimus.* Caſaubon.

UPon the death of the 2 *Gordians* the Senate choſe *Pupienus* and *Balbinus* Emperors in oppoſition to *Maximinus.* In the mean time the Commons decryed the election, but eſpecially rejected *Pupienus*, as too auſtere; and cryed out that they would preſently kill them both, and have a Prince of *Gordian*'s lineage, that the Empire might continue in that name. *Balbinus* and *Pupienus* aſſaying to go forth of the *Capitol*, were kept in with clubs and ſtones, till they deluded the people by this invention.

There

There was in the City a little boy, Son to *Gordian*'s daughter, and of his Grandfathers name; whom they ſent for thither. They who were ſent for him, finding him playing at home, lifted him on their ſhoulders, and ſo carried him through the crowd, telling the people he was *Gordian*'s Nephew, and of his name; the people ſhouting for joy, and caſting leaves upon him. When the Senate had proclaimed him *Cæſar* (his minority not permitting him to manage the ſtate) and the people were calmed, the elected Emperors were ſuffered to paſs to the Palace. *Herdian.* l. 7. c. 10.

Balbinus was both noble and ancient, *Pupienus* was ignobly deſcended, but had born many offices, which having diſcharged with wiſdom and valour, he was highly prized by the Senate.

Ridiculè Oroſius, l. 7. fratres fuiſſe ſcribit, cum alter nobilis, ignobilis alter fuerit, Capitolino auctore. Schottus *in Aur. Victorem.*

Nonnulli ita hos comparandos putant, ut alterum ſeverum, clementem alterum; bonum illum, iſtum conſtantem; illum nihil largientem, hunc affluentem copiis omnibus dicerent. Capitolinus *in Maximo & Balbino, cap.* 7.

Timebant ſeveritatem Maximi *homines vulgares, quam & Senatui acceptiſſimam & ſibi adverſiſſimam eſſe credebant.* Capitolinus *in Maximo & Balbino, ex correctione* Salmaſii, *p.* 271.

Theſe Emperors were not joined in affection, as in authority; each holding himſelf moſt deſerving: each having

their own, and ſtanding upon their own guard.

The election of theſe Emperors by the Senate diſpleaſed the Soldiers ſo much, that at laſt they aſſaulted the Court, and eaſily * ſlew theſe *Senatorian Emperors*, (as they called them) being at variance; crying out to the people, that they had but ſlain them, whom themſelves firſt rejected.

This wretched and diſaſtrous end had theſe venerable and renowned Perſonages, whom their noble lineage and illuſtrious merits mounted to the higheſt Throne of human glory. *Herodian*, l. 8. c. *ult.*

Zoſimus ſaith that *Balbinus* and *Pupienus* would have killed young *Gordian*, becauſe he was more beloved of the Soldiers, by whom he was made *Cæſar*; who hearing of their deſign, prevented them: but *Bæclerus* on *Herodian*, p. 457. thinketh he is miſtaken, or that this was but pretended.

Confundit, ut arbitror Hiſtoriam Philippi cum hac narratione: niſi fors milites ad excuſandum parricidium tale quid in vulgus ſparſerunt.

* Maximini *imperio duo* GORDIANI, *pater & filius principatum arripientes, unus poſt unum interiere. Pari etiam tenore* PUPIENUS *&* BALBINUS *regnum invadentes, peremti ſunt.* Victoris *Epit.*

Antonius

Antonius Gordianus.

UPon the death of *Balbinus* and *Pupienus*, *Gordian* the third, before created *Cæſar* by the Senate through the importunity of the Soldiers, was made Emperor by a general conſent in the 13. year of his age.

Amatus eſt à populo, & Senatu & militibus ante Philippi *factionem, ita ut nemo Principum.* Capitolinus *in tribus Gordianis, c.* 31.

Capitolinus in tribus Gordianis, c. 21. ſaith he reſembled *Scipio Aſiaticus.*

He married *Tranquillina* daughter of *Miſitheus*, whom he loved and honoured for his learning; by whoſe advice he tranſacted ſtate affairs proſperouſly, expelling *Sapor* King of *Perſia* from *Syria*, recovering *Antioch*, *Niſibis*, and *Carræ* by his

his aſſiſtance: for which ſucceſs the Senate appointed a triumph for *Gordian*, and a triumphal Chariot for *Miſitheus* with this inſcription: *Miſitheo parenti Principum Pop. Rom. Tutori Reip. S. P. Q. R.* The Inſcription is ſingular, and the quality of the Prince's Father nothing common, at that time when the ſeat of the Empire had not yet been transferred from *Rome* to *Conſtantinople*: For after that, this quality was conferred as a Title of Office; and vulgarly, thoſe who had the principal direction of affairs, were called the Fathers of the Empire, and of the Emperor. *Balſac*'s Ariſtippus, p. 15.

Miſitheus was ſoon miſſed for counſel and truſt, being poiſoned by *Philip* an *Arabian* of ignoble parentage, who was made *Prefect* in his ſtead, and aſpired to the Empire.

Philip ſecretly cauſed a ſcarcity of victuals in the Army, which he did, that the Soldiers might imagine it to be occaſioned by *Gordian*'s neglect, whom he charged with inability to govern, being ſo young.

The Officers were corrupted by *Philip*, and the Soldiers through ignorance of his deceipt, made him *Gordian*'s Governor, whereupon he grew ſo inſolent, that he commanded all, as if he had been ſole Emperor.

Gordian

Gordian discerning his aim, complaineth openly to the Soldiers of the wrong which was done to him by *Philip*, notwithstanding all obligations to the contrary; but *Philip*'s project prevailing, *Gordian* since he could not share in the Empire, sued to be a Captain, which was denyed him: *Philip* not thinking himself safe (whileſt *Gordian* of great blood and esteem was alive) slew him in the * 22. year of his age, and 6. of his reign; as if Justice her self appeared evidently to take vengeance on the Traitors, each of his Murtherers with the same Poinyard wherewith they slew him, killed himself.

* *Victor* in his Epit. saith the 20th.

Indicium non diu imperaturi Gordiani hoc fuit, quod eclipsis solis facta est, ut nex crederetur, neque sine luminibus accensis quicquam agi posset. Capitolinus *in tribus Gordianis*, c. 23.

The Soldiers that buried him near *Persia*, wrote his title of honour upon his Sepulchre in *Greek* and *Latine*, in the *Persian*, *Jewish* and *Egyptian* tongues, that it might be read of all, as *Capitolinus* writeth in *Gordianis*.

His body being interred in the confines of the *Roman* and *Persian* Empire, gave name to a place, which was for that cause called The Sepulchre of *Gordian*. *Sextus Aurelius Victor* in his Epitome.

Five Languages secured not the Epitaph of *Gordian*, saith Dr. *Brown* in his Urn-burial, p. 81.

Gordian's *Motto* was, *Miser est imperator apud quem vera reticentur*; which was his own case.

Inventus tandem est urbis moderator & orbis,
Insignis patria nobilitate puer.
Boissardus.

Philippus

Philippus Arabs and his Son.

S. P. Q. R. *primo imperium* Marco *cuidam, cum is ſubito moreretur* Severo Hoſtiliano *detulit, ſed cum & hic vena male ſecta decederet, toleravit Philippum.* Laet *in compend. Hiſt.*

PHILIP the Father writing to the Senate of *Gordian*'s death as if it had happened naturally, was by them proclaimed Emperour, through fear of the Soldiers.

He was born of mean Parents, his Father having been a notable Captain of thieves in *Arabia*. *Sextus Aurelius Victor* in his Epitome.

Patre latronum Duce natus, latrocinio quaſi Imperium rapuit. Pareus (vel potius Altingius) in Medulla Hiſtoriæ Profanæ.

Per

Per militiam ad honores venit, & per ſcelus ad Imperium. Glareanus *in Eutropium.*

The *Gothes* infeſting *Myſia* and *Aſia*, *Philip* ſent *Marinus* againſt them, who as ſoon as he came into thoſe parts drew his Army into a rebellion, and proclaimed himſelf Emperor; taking (he ſaid) his example from *Philip*, who raiſed his title by his Sovereigns fall.

Jotapianus Philippi *temporibus imperium in Oriente occupavit: ſed ſtatim oppreſſus, cum imperio vitam ſimul amiſit. Auctor* Zoſimus.

Philip complaining very much to the Senate of *Marinus* his ingratitude, *Decius* bid him not fear, for *Marinus* ſhould ſuffer for it, as he did; for the mutable Soldiers, who even now erected him, ſuddenly threw him down, and ſlew him.

Caſaubonus *de iis qui poſt* Gordianum *tertium Principes fuerunt ad* Valerianum *uſque.*

Decius being ſent in *Marinus* his room, was alſo proclaimed Emperor by the Soldiers, though againſt his will, out of their hatred to *Philip.*

Eodem tempore quo Jotapianus *in Syria,* Marinus *in Pannonia vel Mœſia a legionibus præſidiariis ſalutatus eſt imperator, nec multo poſt trucidatus, ut narrant Zoſimus & Zonaras.* Id. ib.

Decius ſent ſecretly to *Philip*, profeſſing he meant to eſcape the Soldiers, and perſiſt in his allegiance: *Philip* fearing that was but policy (leſt *Decius* ſhould be ſtronger by delays) haſted himſelf with a great Army, and being overcome was * ſlain by the Soldiers at *Verona*, his head being cut off through the teeth.

Victor Schetti maketh *Jotapianus* to uſurp the Empire in *Decius* his time. * *Ferro adeptus imperium, ferro vitam pariter cum Imperio finivit.* Aventinus.

At the news whereof the *Pretorian* Soldiers ſlew his ſon, but 12 years old; who was

Ambo, quamvis diverſis locis tumultu militari & Decii fraude interfecti ſunt. Oroſius, l. 7. c. 20.

was ſo compoſed, that from the 5th year of his age, none by any invention could make him laugh: and when his Father was tickled with laughter at the ſecular plays, he looked on him with an eſtranged countenance.

Baronius in A. C. 253. *de utriuſque morte hanc inſcriptionem profert, & agnoſcit pro vetere: ANNO CHRIST. CCLIII. IMP. DIVUS PHILIPPUS SENIOR VERONÆ ET ROMÆ JUNIOR A SATELLITIBUS OCCISUS EST. Sed* Scal. ad Euſeb. *ſuppoſititiam eſſe ſatis demonſtrat, & deſcriptam ex* Chronico Hieronymiano Rupertus *in min. ſynop. Beſoldi*, p. 358.

Veronenſis Inſcriptio, quam in Annalibus laudat Baronius, & Adolphus Occo, teſtatur Anno Chriſti CCLIII. cæſos eſſe Philippos. *Sed adulterina & nugatoria eſt epigraphe, quam merito neglexit Onufrius. Neque enim annorum putatio ita vetus eſt; quam demum poſt Dionyſium paſſim uſurpatam eſſe conſtat. Itaque nihil erat, quod ad rationes ſuas cum ψευδεπιγράφῳ illo monumento conciliandas, Annalium, Chronicorumque Scriptores biennium* Philippis *arrogarent. Atque ut* Deciis *ambobus Coſſ. necatos eſſe* Philippos *arbitremur, nequaquam is annus erit æræ Chriſtianæ CCLIII, ut Annalibus eſſe videtur; ſed CCLI. verum ante* Decios *ambos Conſules,* Philippos *extinctos eſſe, probabilius eſt.* Petavius *De Doctrina Temporum, l.* 11. *c.* 26.

The

The time of their reign was 7 years, ſay ſome, others ſay 6, ſome but *5 *Annos potentiæ quinque egere.* Victor Schotti.

*Theodorus Metochita in hiſt. Rom.

The elder *Philip*'s age is not related by any Hiſtorian.

Euſebius reports of him, that he was the firſt Chriſtian Emperor; and that being deſirous to join with the multitude in the Eccleſiaſtical prayers, he could not be admitted till he had firſt rendred an account of his Faith, and joined himſelf with ſuch as for their ſins were examined, and ſet in the place of Penitents; therefore becauſe he was faulty in many things, ſaith the Hiſtorian, he willingly obeyed, and declared by his works his ſincere and religious mind towards God. The Martyrologies will have him and his Son converted by occaſion of the celebrating the 1000th year from the building of *Rome*, and being baptized by Pope *Fabianus*, after confeſſion of his ſins, to have been admitted to the Communion. But ſaith *Cappellus*, if any of this had been true, would the Senate that was ſo ſet againſt the Chriſtians have reckoned him among the Gods? At leaſt would not *Decius* have objected this as a crime againſt him? *William Howel* his Hiſtory from the beginning of the world to *Conſtantine*, p. 872.

Marciam Otaciliam Severam *Auguſtam*, Philippi *ſenioris uxorem, religionis Chriſtianæ ſacris*

ſacris imbutam fuiſſe plerique autumant. Quæ res effeciſſe videtur, ut Philippum *quoque uxoris gratia æquiorem piis, palam Chriſtianum fuiſſe* Euſebius *aliique multi ſcripſerint. Aſſentior vero doctiſſimis viris, qui putant cum* Zonara, *duos* Philippos, *hunc nempe* Auguſtum, *& alterum præfectum* Auguſtalem, *Eugeniæ martyris patrem, ab antiquis rerum Eccleſiaſticarum ſcriptoribus Græcis fuiſſe confuſes.* Caſaubon.

Roma necat natum, perimit verona Parentem.
Dum furor in Decios arma movere jubet.
Boiſſardus.

Trajanus

Meſſius Quintus } and his { *Etruſcus*
Trajanus Decius, } Son { *Decius.*

DECIUS was elected Emperor by the *Perſian* Legions, proclaimed in *Verona* by the Roman Soldiers, and had the voices of the Senate to confirm him.

He was noble by birth, an experienced, wiſe and valiant Prince; and might have been reckoned among the beſt; had he not with an heatheniſh rage * perſecuted the *Chriſtians*, being Author of the 7. perſecution.

* *Ad perſequendos interficiendoſque Chriſtianos, VII. poſt* Neronem *feralia diſperſit Edicta, plurimoſque ſanctorum ad coronas Chriſti de ſuis cruciibus miſit.* Oroſius, *l.* 7. *c.* 21.

In *Decius* his time *Lucius Priſcus* Vice-roy of *Macedonia* uſurped the Empire, and *Marcus Auſidius Perpenna Licinianus.*

Perſecutio non ab aliquo principali edicto cœpit; ſed integro anno anteceſſit. Vates enim ſive poeta, quiſquis tandem ille fuit, vulgus adverſus nos compulit & concitavit, ſuperſtitione propria & gentili audacium atque inflammatum. Hi autem ab eo excitati totum pietatem & dæmonum culturam in eo ſitam exiſtimarunt, ut cædibus contra nos graſſarentur. Heraldus *in Apologet. Tertul.* p. 142, *ex Euſebio.*

He put more Chriſtians to death in a year and an half, than *Trajan* (whoſe name he had, and whom he would have been thought to reſemble) in 20. *Triſtan.*

See *Beſoldus* his *major ſynopſis* of Hiſt.

It was the Devils policy to employ eſpecially men noted for moral honeſty and abilities to maſſacre God's Saints, that the world might believe thoſe could not chuſe but be moſt abominable, whom ſuch wiſe and pious men were ſo earneſt to extinguiſh. *Prideaux's* Introduction to Hiſtory.

The *Novatians* would not communicate with them, who had denyed the Faith in the perſecution of *Decius*, and afterwards repenting turned to the ſame Faith again. *Nicephorus Calliſtus*, l. 12. c. 38.

Ille, qui omnes a baptiſmo vel ſemel relapſos crudeli errore damnabat, non exiſtimans iterum in Eccleſiam recipiendos, quid aliud quam Eccleſiarum concordiam diſſipabat: hos ad deſperationem, illos ad privata agens concilia & cœtus? Giſelinus *in Prudentium*, p. 446.

Euſe-

Euſebius Eccleſ. hiſt. l. 6. ſaith, *Novatus* taught there was no hope of ſalvation for them that fell in time of perſecution; though they performed all things that appertain to true converſion, and a right profeſſion of the Faith. Yet *Socrates* affirmeth Eccleſ. hiſt. l. 1. that the *Novatians* did not ſimply deny ſalvation to ſuch, but the peace of the Church only, and the participation of holy myſteries. There is no heed to be given to *Socrates* in this relation (though otherwiſe a faithful Hiſtorian) becauſe he was a *Novatian*, and would therefore ſpeak as favourably as he could of his own opinion, which was hateful to moſt of the Churches in thoſe times. *Hoard* his Soul's miſery and recovery, p. 472, 474.

The fear of *Decius* his perſecution gave the original to a Monkiſh life.

He was victorious againſt the *Gothes*, and joining a freſh battel with them, was overthrown by the treaſon of his General, *Gallus*, ſaith *Pomponius Lætus*.

His Son was mortally wounded by an arrow, himſelf leaping into a *whirl-pool was never ſeen after.

Triſtan thinketh this misfortune befel *Decius* for a puniſhment of his perſecutions.

Vopiſcus in the life of *Aurelian*, and *Pomponius Lætus* compare *Decius* and his Son with the *Decii Mures*, who devoted themſelves to deſtruction in a dangerous fight,

* *Juſta Dei vindicta, ut qui ſanguinem Chriſtianorum ſitierat, cœnum biberet, & in terram uliginoſam vivus deſcenderet.* Hemelarius.

for the ſafety of their Country, which depended thereupon. But the compariſon doth not agree, ſaith *Triſtan.* For the 2 ancient *Decii* rendred the *Romans* victorious by their death, whereas theſe by theirs made them ſlaves to the Barbarians, and loſt many of their Provinces. Beſides that *Decius* the Father was drowned and ſwallowed up in his flight, which hath no reſemblance with the end of the *Decii* of the ancient Common-wealth.

He dyed at the age of 50, having reigned 2 years.

Non tacendum Imperatores aliquot Romano imperio genuiſſe Pannoniam, *inter quos* Decius, Aurelianus, Valer. Probus, Flav. Valentinianus *præcipui fuerunt.* Vadiani *Epitome trium terræ partium.*

Pro patria Decii *dum prœlia fortia miſcent,*
Filius occubuit Marte, palude pater.
Velius.

Caius

Caius Vibius Trebonianus Gallus, and his Son *Volusian*

GALLUS appearing much grieved for *Decius* his death, was not ſuſpected; which facilitated his attaining of the Empire.

He deſcended from an honourable Family in *Rome*, but was ſtain'd (beſides Treaſon) with a cruel and evil Government.

He made a diſhonourable peace with the *Gothes*, whereby the *Romans* became tributaries yearly to them; who violated the agreement, ſpoiling *Dardania*, *Thrace*, *Theſſaly*, *Macedonia*, *Greece* & *Aſia*: by their example

ample the *Perſians* entred *Syria*, and ruined *Armenia*. *P. Lætus.*

He cauſed *Virtus Auguſtorum* to be ſtamped upon his, and his Sons *Medals*, as if he had got the Empire by valour and not by deceit. *Pomponius Lætus.*

Gallus and *Voluſian* continued the 7th perſecution, of which *Dionyſius* Biſhop of *Alexandria*, in a Letter of his recorded by *Euſebius*, wrote thus. "As for *Gallus*, "he neither remembred the calamities of "*Decius*, nor did he ſo diligently as he "ought, conſider with himſelf before-"hand, what it might be, that had been "the chief occaſion of his ruine: but "unhappily, to his great miſery, ſtumbled "upon the ſame ſtone, though apparent-"ly ſet before his eies. Who in the full "ſail of proſperity, when he might have "boaſted of his hearts deſire in all things, "by cruel Edicts began to proſcribe "thoſe religious men, who for the peace "of his Kingdom, and for the health and "ſafety of his own Perſon, were wont to "make earneſt prayers and interceſſions "unto God. Who therefore at the ſame "time, when he drove them away, did "drive with them thoſe prayers alſo, "which for him they were accuſtomed to "pour unto God. And leſt any man think it ſtrange, that this holy Biſhop ſhould lay it to a profeſſed Heathen Emperors charge, that he made no greater account of the ſolemn prayers and ſupplica-

plications of Chriſtians; I would not have it unknown, that even Heathen Emperors (ſome of them) though otherwiſe very ill affected to Chriſtianity, had nevertheleſs ſuch an opinion of theſe prayers, as that they thought themſelves and their Empire the more ſecure for them. *The uſe of daily publick prayers, in* 3 *Poſitions*, p. 24, 25.

Under theſe two Emperors aroſe a plague in *Ethiopia*, which ſpread it ſelf by degrees in all the Provinces of the Roman Empire, and laſted 15 years ſaith *Ignatius*; and ſo great was the mortality, that in *Alexandria*, as *Dionyſius* above mentioned reports, there was not one houſe of the City free, and the remainder of the Inhabitants equalled not the number of old men in former times: By means whereof St. *Cyprian*, Biſhop of *Carthage*, (who lived in that age) took occaſion to write that excellent Treatiſe *De Mortalitate*. And *Lipſius* his cenſure of this peſtilence is, *Non alia unquam major lues mihi lecta, ſpatio temporum ſive terrarum.*

Ex apertione cujuſdam ciſtulæ, tam ſævæ univerſo orbi incubuit peſtis, ut Romæ quotidie ad VM. hominum in Libitinæ rationes venirent. Laet's *hiſtory from Chriſts time.*

Huc pertinet nummus Imp. Galli, APOLLINI SALUTARI. Nam quoties alicui Deo cognomen SALUTARIS apponitur, id argumento eſt hoſtiis illi Deo factum ad peſtilentem morbum expiandum. Scaliger *in Euſebium.*

Exoritur ultio violati nominis Chriſtiani, & uſque quo ad profligandas Eccleſias Edicta Decii *cucurrerunt, eatenus incredibilium] morborum peſtis intenditur; nulla ferè provincia Romana, nulla civitas, nulla domus fuit, quæ non illa generali peſtilentia correpta atque vaſtata ſit.* Oroſius, *l.* 7. *c.* 21.

Gallo Volusianoque favor quæsitus, eo quod anxie studioseq; tenuissimi cujusque exequias curarent. Sextus Aurelius Victor *de Cæsaribus. Utrique* Aurelius Victor *HOSTILIANUM PERPENNAM adjungit.* Mierælius *in Syntag. hist. polit. C. A. Rupertus & Goltzius* call him *C. Valens Hostilianus Messius Quintus.*

Æmylianus, his General having overcome the *Gothes*, grew so proud thereupon, that he aspired to the Empire, which he purchased by the good will of the Soldiers, who slew *Gallus* and his Son in battel.

Dexippus who lived in those times saith, he governed but 18 months.

Gallus habet, nato cum Principe sceptra Biennis,
Desertum occidit miles utrumque suus.
Velius.

Æmylianus.

Æmylianus.

HE was an *African* of obſcure parentage, and aroſe to be a General from a common Soldier.

Æmylianus obſcuriſſime natus, obſcurius imperavit, ac tertio menſe extinctus eſt. Eutrop. *l.* 9.

His election was at firſt contradicted by the *Italian* band, who ſought to make *Valerian* Emperor, to which the Senate enclined becauſe of *Valerian*'s renown.

Æmilian's Army hearing of the election of *Valerian*, tumultuouſly * murdered their own creature. *Zoſimus*, whom *Beſoldus* followeth in his *major & minor Synopſis* of Hiſtory; ut *Caſaubon* concurs with *Aurelius Victor*, who ſaith he died of a diſeaſe.

* *Quaſi parcarum forceps Imperium eſſet, aut Purpura foret ſtola libitinæ.* Buſſieres *in Floſculis Hiſtoriarum.*

He

He was 46 years old, ſaith *S. Aurelius Victor* in his *Epitome*, repreſenting him to be valiant, without raſhneſs or precipitation.

Some reckon him among Uſurpers, but his title is allowed by *Eutropius*.

Of 30 Emperors who reigned ſince *Octavius Auguſtus* his time, until *Valerian*, 6 of them eſcaped not the hands of murtherers. *Lloid*'s Conſent of time.

Spanhem the Son in his *Remarques* upon *Julian*'s *Cæſars*, p. 253. thinks *Julian* mentioneth not thoſe Emperors that reigned between *Alexander Severus* and *Valerian*; becauſe the Roman Empire was invaded by Tyrants, who reigned but a few months, or years at moſt; which reaſon is alledged by *Lampridius* for his paſſing from *Alexander Severus* to *Aurelian*, and thoſe that governed the Empire a longer time.

Maurus & imperii rapit Æmylianus honores,
Hic ad Spoleti mœnia caſus obit.
Velius.

Valerianus.

Valerianus.

HE was nobly deſcended, and of ſuch eſteem among the *Romans*, that being a private man, and abſent, they choſe him for their *Cenſor*; an office of great dignity, ever conferred upon the beſt, ſaith *Trebellius Pollio* who wrote his life. *Valeriani vita cenſura eſt.*

Haud conſona de hoc Valeriano authores prodidere. Sex. Aurel. *ſtolidum & multum inertem narrat, neque ad aliquem uſum publicum, officio, conſilio vel geſtis accommodatum. Contra* Trebellius *mire hunc laudat, adducto Senatuſconſulto in ejus rei teſtimonium.* Pomponius Lætus *ait eum fuiſſe hominem*

nem majoris ſpei ac opinionis, quàm fortunæ: id quod res ipſa oſtendit. Glareanus *in Eutropium*, p. 223.

At the beginning of his reign he was gracious to the Chriſtians above any of his Predeceſſors, but after being perverted by *Macrianus* an *Egyptian* Magician (who aſpired to the Empire in his Son's time) he was Author * of the eighth perſecution.

* *Adigi per tormenta Chriſtianos ad idolatriam, abnegantesque interfici juſſit, fuſo per omnem Romani regni latitudinem ſanctorum ſanguine.* Oroſius, *l.* 7. *c.* 22.

As this was the outward and political cauſe, ſo St. *Cyprian* ſheweth other cauſes more ſpecial and Eccleſiaſtical in the 4th Epiſtle of his 4th Book. In which Epiſtle (worthy to be read of all) *Cyprian* deſcribeth a certain viſion, ſeen long before this tempeſt of perſecution hapned; wherein the Chriſtians are upbraided for not being ſo vigilant in prayer as they ſhould.

Tarapha de Regib. Hiſp. ſaith *Hemiterius* and *Chelidonius* 2 Spaniſh Martyrs (of whom *Prudentius* writeth *περὶ στεφάνων hymno primo*) ſuffered under *Valerian.*

Prudentius in hymno dicit ignorari tempus, quo paſſi ſint; ſed Chronica Hiſpana huic adſcribunt perſecutioni: quod ita eſſe, ex Eborenſi Breviario conſtat. Vaſæi *Chronicon. Hiſpan.* p. 276. Where it is added, that they were Soldiers, and ſons of *Marcellus* a Centurion, who alſo was a Martyr (ſaith *Vaſæus*, p. 282.) being beheaded for profeſſing Chriſtianity, by *Agricolaus*, *Licinius*'s deputy.

Fructu-

Fructuoſus a Biſhop, being charged to worſhip *Gallienus* his heathen Gods, anſwered; "I worſhip no dumb God of "ſtocks and blocks which the Emperor "worſhipeth, but I worſhip the Lord and "Maſter of *Gallienus*, the Father and "Creator of all times. For witneſſing which good confeſſion, this bleſſed and fruitful Biſhop with his 2 Deacons *Augurius* and *Eulogius* were burned. *Prudentius Periſteph. Hymn. 6.*

Marinus a Nobleman and Captain in *Ceſarea Paleſtina* ſtanding for a Centurionſhip, that fell to him by right of ſucceſſion, his Competitor to prevent him, accuſed him to *Achaius* the Judge for being a Chriſtian; who examining him of his Faith, and finding it true, gave him three hours to deliberate, whether he would loſe his Office and life, or renounce Chriſt and his profeſſion. *Marinus* being much perplexed what to reſolve on, *Theotecnus* the godly Biſhop of *Ceſarea* took him by the hand, led him into the Church, ſet the New Teſtament and his ſword (repreſentations of God and the world) before him, bidding him freely chuſe which of them he would have. He taking up the New Teſtament, the wiſe Biſhop convinced thereby that he preferred God before the world, encouraged him to be conſtant even to death, and God whom he choſe would be conſtant to him. Whereupon he went boldly to the Judge, from whom he received the ſentence of death. *Euſebius*, Ec. Hiſt. l. 7. c. 14. Saint

Prudentius Periſteph. Hymn. 2.

Saint *Laurence* refuſing to deliver the Churches money to the *Prefect* of *Rome*, was adjudged by him to be broiled on a Grid-iron; which torments he bore bravely, ſaying in a facetious Sarcaſm,

Tyrant, this ſide's enough, turn up the reſt;
Or roaſt, or raw try which thou likeſt beſt.
Billingſly's *Brachy-Martyrologia*, p. 40.

Prudentius Periſteph. Hymn. 13.

Cyprian Biſhop of *Carthage* was crowned with Martyrdom, who when the ſentence was paſſed againſt him, gave God thanks; and being adviſed by *Galerius* the *Pro-conſul* to conſider and recant, anſwered: *In re tam ſancta non opus eſt deliberatione, There needs no deliberation in this caſe.*

In his forementioned Epiſtle, he writeth that in a *Revelation* he was bid be quiet, for peace would come though there was ſtay for a while, that ſome men might be try'd.

Maſſa Candida *in Africa.*

In *Valerian*'s reign there ſuffered 300 Martyrs together *at *Carthage*, whom the Governor of the City commanded either to throw frankincenſe into the fire (ſet before them) in honour of *Jupiter*, or elſe to caſt themſelves headlong into a Lime-kiln hard by; which they did, chuſing rather to embrace fire, than reſiſt light.

Corpora candor habet, candor vehit ad ſuperna mentes,
Candida maſſa *dehinc dici meruit per omne ſeclum.*
Prudentius *in Periſteph. Hymn.* 13.

Cheræmon Epiſcop. Nicopoleos ſub Valerian. *Imp. in fuga cum aliis exul, vivus una*

cum

cum uxore in cœlum ſublatus eſt. 257. Oræus *in Nomenclatore præcipuorum Doctorum, &c.*

As all the perſecutors before had their deſerved reward at the hand of God, who rendreth to every man according to his works: ſo this cruel *Valerian*, after he had reigned with his Son *Gallienus* 6 or 7 years, and about 2 years had afflicted the Church, felt the juſt ſtroke of his hand, whoſe indignation before he had provoked, as is related by *Eutropius*, *Sabellicus*, *Volaterranus*: for when he warred in *Meſopotamia*, he was taken priſoner by *Sapor*, or *Schabur* King of *Perſia* (through the treachery of *Macrianus*) and uſed like a ſlave as long as he lived, *Sapor* ſetting his foot upon his neck whenſoever he mounted on horſe-back, to the utmoſt vilifying of Majeſty, and the regret of divers interceding Princes.

Surnamed *Dhul-aktaph* from his broad ſhoulders. *Shikard* in his *Tarich Regum Perſicorum*, *l.* 110.

It was the moſt ſignal affront which the *Romans* hitherto ever received in the perſon of their Emperors. *Triſtan.*

At laſt ſaith *Euſebius*, by *Sapors* command, his eies were pulled out, wherewith he dyed; *Agathias* ſaith he was flayed alive, and rubbed all over with ſalt: a calamity which may challenge tears of blood.

All his skin from the neck to the ſoles of his feet, was ſo artificially pulled off, that it might be blown like a bladder, and ſo was hung upon a rock, for an example to

to all ages. *Schickard* his *Tarich*, p. 111.

He lived a long, but diſgraceful age; was 76 years old before he was taken Priſoner: after his captivity he lived 7 years in reproaches, and then dyed a violent death. A man of a poor mind, and not valiant; notwithſtanding lifted up in his own, and the opinion of men, but falling ſhort in the performance. Sir *Fr. Bacon.*

Infœliciſſimus Principum a filio Gallieno in Deos relatus eſt, quaſi Deum facere poſſet, quem libcrum facere aut nequiverat, aut neglexerat. Cluverus *in Hiſt. Epit.*

Sub eo fames tanta fuit, quanta nunquam, & cadaverum multitudo, quam effari nemo poſſit. Quippe a mari pariter ac terra, fluviiſque & paludibus, vapores quidam oriebantur, adeo quidem pernicioſi, ut rores ipſi cadaverum humores viderentur. Itaque nulla inventa domus in qua non cadaver aliquid fœtidum eſſet; moriebantur enim homines numero plures. Metochita *in Hiſt. Rom.*

Gallienus *tam claro Dei judicio territus, tamque miſero collegæ permotus exemplo, pacem Eccleſiæ trepida ſatisfactione reſtituit*, ſaith *Oroſius*, l. 7. c. 22.

Julian the Apoſtate, who ſo ſmartly cenſureth the Emperors his Predeceſſors, arrogantly taxeth the misfortune of *Valerian* in his *Ceſars*, reproaching his ſervitude, and repreſenting him laden with his chains to enter the banquet of the Gods.

Valerian *Chriſtians vext*, Sapores *flay'd him,*
How cruelty helps juſtice! they repaid him.
Dr. Holyday's *Survey of the world*, p. 90.

Gallienus.

Gallienus.

WHen *Valerian* his Father was taken prisoner, he was made Emperor.

He was expert in Oratory, * Poetry, and all other arts, but was defective in qualifications which are requisite in an Emperor. *Trebellius Pollio.*

* His *Epithalamium* is more fully expressed in *Swartius's Analecta. lib.* 1. c. 10. than in *Tr. Pollio.*

He Governed the Common-wealth prosperously, with his Father *Valerian*; indifferently, with *Valerian* his younger Brother: At the last destructively, when he managed all himself. *Glareanus* on *Eutropius, p.* 224.

Ob meritum vel propriæ libidinis, vel paternæ theomachiæ innumera Barbaris aſſurgentibus, regni detrimenta ſuſtinuit. Haymo *Hiſt. Eccl. l. 7. c. 6.*

At firſt he acted like a valiant Captain, overcame and ſlew *Ingenuus* (who uſurped the Empire) as alſo *Regillianus*; and overcame 300000 *Gothes* and *Almans*, having but 10000 on his ſide, (ſaith *Zonaras*) but after he gave himſelf ſo much to ſenſuality, that when the World was infected with Warres, he continued for the moſt part in *Rome* among Whores, compaſſed with Roſes and Flowers; ſeeking new delights, often bathing himſelf, ſtudying how he might keep Figs and other fruits green all the year; having ordinarily at his table moſt exquiſite and delicate meats, and of great coſt. *Trebellius Pollio* in *Gallieno*, c. 16.

Quod inſolens ille Princeps caſtella de pomis, &c. fieri juſſit, meræ fatuitati (ne quid turpius dicam) perpetuo attribuendum erit: Quia nulla ſpecie fortitudinis, quæ gloria Principum eſt, id fieri decuit, pront hic ſuperius de nivalibus caſtellis eſt deductum: in quibus jactu globorum ſe pueri & adoleſcentes (futura certamina fortiter toleraturi) exercent; nulla cœli, elementorumve injuria fracti, vel fatigati, dum in tam duris luſibus, & aſpera hieme fuerint educati. Olaus Magnus *de ritu gent. Septentr. lib.* 1. c. 23.

A facetiis aliquam meruit laudem, ſaith *Micrælius* in his *Syntagma Hiſt. Polit.*

When a ſhooting prize was played before him, he gave the garland to one who ſhot alwayes wide, concluding that it was the more improbable difficulty to aim ſo often, and never to hit. *Taurum toties*

non

non ferire difficile eſt. Treb. Pollio *in Gallieno, c.* 12.

When it was told him that *Egypt* rebelled, he anſwered, "Cannot we live without the linen of Egypt? *France* being loſt, he laughing ſaid; "Cannot the "Land ſtand without thoſe Soldiers "Caſſocks which *France* ſends us? Being advertiſed alſo of *Aſias* deſtruction, by Earthquakes and *Scythian* invaſion; "Cannot we ſubſiſt (*ſaid he*) without "Salt-peter?

'Tis obſerved that there were thirty competitors once on foot, for one and the ſame throne, to wit, that of the *Roman* Empire, who confounded one another. And I think our age hath ſeen a greater number of aſpirers for a narrower Territory. Mr. *Gee* in his Preface to the Divine Right and Original of the Civil Magiſtrate from God, illuſtrated and vindicated.

In his reign the Heavens were darkned ſo, that the Sun was not ſeen for many dayes; in the bowels of the earth were heard roarings, with the fear whereof many dyed; Earth-quakes threw down many houſes, whereby the Inhabitants were deſtroyed; theſe Earth-quakes were frequent in *Rome*, *Africk*, but eſpecially in *Aſia*; the Earth opened in many places, and ſhewed Vaults and Caves, from whence ſalt water ſtreamed; and ſeveral Cities were drowned by the Sea: and in

Tot rebelliones Gallieno Principe extiterunt, imo tot tyranni, qui imperatoris nomina tulerunt, quot à Caſare Dictatore ad id tempus in tam longa imperatorum ſerie nunquam inventi fuere. Olaus Magnus, *fol.* 297

in *Rome* there dyed above 5000 in one day of the peſtilence. *Treb. Pollio.* c. 5.

Gallienus addicted only to his pleaſures, was not affected with theſe calamities, thinking they proceeded rather from chance than any ſignal puniſhment.

He grieved not for his Fathers captivity, but, when he was informed of it, (alluding to the ſpeech of *Xenophon* the Philoſopher who having loſt his ſon, ſaid, *Sciebam me genuiſſe mortalem*;) anſwer'd, *Sciebam patrem meum eſſe mortalem*: "I knew "that my Father was lyable to the miſe- "ries as other men. *Nec defuit Annius Cornicula, qui eum quaſi conſtantem Principem falſo ſua voce laudaret, pejor tamen ille qui credidit*, ſaith *Pollio*, c. 16.

Romæ in arcu S. Viti reperta eſt hæc inſcriptio:

Galieno clementiſſ. Principi, cujus invicta virtus ſola pietate ſuperata eſt.

M. Aurelius Victor deditiſſimus numini majeſtatique ejus.

Sic eſt nulla labes tam grandis, quæ non poſſit obſcurari: & vitia ſuum habent defenſorem. Cuſpinianus *in* Gallieno.

Odenatus, though an Independent Prince, was of ſuch moderation, that he held correſpondence with *Gallienus*, and ſent him ſuch of the *Perſian* Nobility as he had taken priſoners, for monuments of his victory over *Sapor*, and revenge of the indignities offered to *Valerian*: thus *Odenatus* conquered, and *Gallienus* triumphed, who when he could not eclipſe *Odenatus* his

his merit by any Princely vertue, or ſuppreſs it by valor, ſought to deface it by treachery; but failing of his aims therein, he made him partner of the Empire for fear; *Odenatus* receiving the titles of *Imperator*, and *Auguſtus*, from *Gallienus* and the Senate.

Being not aſhamed ridiculouſly to triumph over the *Perſians*, who detained his Father priſoner, and to lead them captive in his mock-ſhew; ſome jeering companions mixing themſelves with the *Perſians*, exactly viewed their countenances, and being asked wherefore they did it, anſwered, *We ſeek for his Majeſties Father*; which when *Gallienus* heard of, he was ſo incenſed at the taunt, that he commanded thoſe who uttered it to be burned alive.

The *Scythians* invading *Cappadocia*, the Soldiers attempted to make a new Emperor, for which *Gallienus* put them all to the ſword. *Pollio*, c. 11.

In his time the City *Byzantium* (renowned for the ſea-fights, and the place which barreth in the *Euxine* Sea) was deſtroyed by his ſoldiers; to revenge which, he being received into *Byzantium*, compaſſed them unarmed with armed ſoldiers, and ſlew them contrary to his covenant. And as if he had done ſome great matter, he poſted to *Rome*, and ſummoning the Senators, appointeth *decennial* playes to be celebrated *novo*

genere ludorum, nova ſpecie pomparum, exquiſito genere voluptatum, ſaith *Pollio* c.7.

He killed ſometimes 3 or 4000 ſoldiers in a day. *Id. Ib.* c. 18.

At laſt he himſelf, with his brother *Valerian* and his ſon *Gallienus*, were ſlain near *Milain* (where he belieged *Aureolus*) by the treachery of *Marcianus Ceronius*, or *Cecropius* and *Heraclian*. Pollio, c. 14.

Aliter *Aur. Victor.*

He was a bad man, and a worſe Governor; yet an act of clemency that he did, gat him much love, and covered many of his vices: the act was this. One ſold unto the Empreſs counterfeit Jewels inſtead of true ones, and ſo cozened her of much money; ſhe complaineth thereof to the Emperor, importuning him to execute the Law in all rigor: who ſeemeth to give way, commanding the Malefactor to be expoſed to a Lion. But when this Chapman looked for nothing leſs than death, and that a cruel one; in the room of a Lion rampant a Capon was ordered to be put out through the Den, at which all the Spectators marvelling, *Gallienus* bad the Cryer proclaim: *Impoſturam fecit & paſſus eſt*, He deceived others, and now is cozened himſelf; being made to believe he ſhould dy, is ſuffered to live, and hath a Capon to his ſupper. Bp. *Smith's Sermons*, p. 244.

Nempe

Nempe id leporis voluit, id ſpectaculi,
Id Gallienus *muneris populo dare,*
Id ultionis conjugi, id metus reo.

Angelini Gazæi *Pia Hilaria, edita Cantabrig. tom.* 1. p. 168,169.

He lived 50 years, reigned 15, 7 with his Father, 8 alone.

At once Rome 30 *Tyrants had; this ſits*
A monſter: many Heads! how many wits?

Dr. *Holydayes* Survey of the world, *lib.* 9. p. 100.

Saloninus

Saloninus Gallienus

WAS Son of the foremen-tioned *Gallienus* and *Cornelia Salonina Pipara*, whence ſome think he was called *Saloninus*; though others conceive him to be ſo named for being born at *Salona:* but *Caſaubon* inclineth to the former opinion.

There is little memorable recorded of him beſides his noble extraction and education, and that he was murdered not ſo much for his own, as his Fathers ſake. *Trebellius Pollio* in his life, c. 1.

Exiguum decus nobile ſtemma & regia educa-

educatio, niſi virtus accedat, ſaith *Goulartius* in his marginal obſervation.

He was ſubſtituted by his Father, in the place of his elder brother *Cornelius Valerianus,* who died in his minority.

Divers Soldiers invited to a feaſt by *Gallienus,* in the time of their repaſt laid aſide their Girdles and Belts, which being gilt, or ſtudded with gold, ſilver and precious ſtones, *Saloninus* took away: which being hardly recovered, when loſt in a Princes Court, the military Officers ſilently bore their loſs, but the next time they were invited ſate not down ungirt. And being demanded why their Girdles were not put off? they anſwered, *Salonino deferimus.* Tr. Pollio *in his life,* c. 2.

Ambiguum hoc militarium virorum reſponſum, quod non videntur animadvertiſſe doctiſſimi viri. Duplicem enim ſenſum poteſt habere: aut Salonini honori ſe hoc tribuere, aut ejus cauſa hoc facere, ut baltheos non deponerent, ne iterum ab ipſo raperentur, hoc reſponſo voluerunt intelligi milites iſti. Sed magis verum eſt, illos ſic intellexiſſe, ne iterum perderent baltheos ſuos, quos prius rapuerat Saloninus, Salonini cauſa ſe facere, ne eos dimitterent. Salmaſius.

Of

Of the 30 Tyrants contemporary with *Valerian* and *Gallienus*.

I. *Cyriades* inſtigated the *Perſians* to invade the Roman territories, by their aſſiſtance took *Antioch*, and was by them elected Emperor. Having terrified all the Eaſt with his puiſſance or adventurouſneſs, and killed his Father, he was ſlain by the treachery of his own party, when *Valerian* went to the *Perſian* war. *Trebellius Pollio in triginta tyrannis, cap.* 2.

Hunc clarum, perfugium, & parricidium, & aſpera tyrannis & ſumma luxuries literis dederunt. Id. ibid.

II. *Ingenuus* rebelled againſt *Valerian* in *Hungary* (as *Cyriades* had done in *Syria*) but was defeated by *Gallienus* who was ſo cruel to the *Mœſians* for electing *Ingenuus*, that he made moſt of their Cities void of Males. *Ingenuus* to eſcape *Gallienus* his cruelty, ſtabbed himſelf with a dagger, ſaith *Tr. Pollio ubi ſupra*, c. 8.

III. *Regillianus* commanding in *Illyricum*, was made Emperor by the friends of thoſe *Mœſians* who were vanquiſhed with *Ingenuus*, and ſo barbarouſly uſed by *Gallienus*. The occaſion of his advancement was ſtrange, he getting the Empire only in favour of his name. For when

a

a Tribune demanded at ſupper, whence *Regillianus* was derived? one anſwered *à Regno*, another began to decline *Rex, regis, regi, Regillianus*; whereat the Soldiers (who in all actions are forward) brake out into theſe acclamations; *Ergo poteſt Rex eſſe*; *Ergo poteſt nos regere*; *Deus tibi regis nomen impoſuit*: and within few daies the chief military Commanders ſaluted him Emperor. *Ita quod aliis vel audacia vel judicium detulit, huic jocularis aſtutia*, ſaith *Tr. Pollio in* 30 *tyrannis*, *c.* 9.

He fought couragiouſly againſt the *Sarmatians* now called *Poles*, but was ſlain by the *Roxolani* (at preſent ſtyled *Ruſſians* or *Muſcovites*) with the conſent of the Soldiery and Peaſants, who feared leſt otherwiſe *Gallienus* would expreſs greater cruelty towards them than before. *Id. ib.*

V. *Macrianus* the Father aſcended the Imperial throne by the aſſiſtance of *Baliſta*, who moved with the miſery of the Common-wealth, reſolved by election of an Emperor to prevent the ruine of his Country. The affection of the Army forcibly ſet the Garland on *Macrianus*, and his 2 ſons, *Macrianus* and *Quietus* as moſt worthy.

Egypt and all the Eaſt acknowledged *Macrianus* for Emperor, as *Triſtan* proveth from an ancient Medal, in his Hiſtorical Commentaries, *tom.* 3.

He advanced his ſons to the ſame dignity, which himſelf was ambitious of; his bodily

bodily weakneſs rendring him unfit for the diſcharge of his place, ſaith *Valeſius in Euſebium*, p. 147.

Joannes Zonaras in Annalibus Macrianum claudum fuiſſe ſcribit: quem in hiſtoria illorum temporum conſulere, haudquaquam inutile fuerit. Solus enim ex iis qui ad nos pervenerunt ſcriptoribus, Macriani & filiorum ejus res geſtas accurate commemoravit. Id. ibid.

Macrianus had the conduct of 45000 men againſt *Gallienus*, encountred with *Aureolus* in the confines of *Thrace*; where he and *Macrianus* the younger were diſcomfited and ſlain by *Domitian*, *Aureolus*'s General; 30000 of his Soldiers that eſcaped going over to the adverſe party. *Tr. Pollio ubi ſupra.*

Macriani clade audita, Dionyſius Alexandrinus Gallieno gratulatur. Euſeb. l. 7. c. 25. *gratulatur, inquam, aliquanto plus quam par ſit. Nam nec erat victoria tanta, quantam putabat Dionyſius: nec erant ii Gallieni mores, quos putabat Dionyſius.* Jac. Cappellus *in Eccleſ. Hiſt. centuriis quinque*, p. 59, 60.

Macrianus's Standard-bearer falling by chance bowed his Banner, which other Enſigns ſeeing, and being ignorant of the cauſe, ſuſpected he did it as yielding to the Emperor, whereupon the reſt did the like with acclamations in favour of *Gallienus*. Zonaras.

VI. *Macrianus junior* hath been diſcourſed

courſed of in the account that is given of his Father.

VII. *Quietus* the other ſon of *Macrianus* was killed by *Odenatus*; after he heard of *Aureolus*'s ſucceſs againſt the *Macriani* and *Quietus*: that thereby he might ſeem to revenge the wrong done to *Gallienus*.

VIII. *Valens* was made *Pro-conſul* of *Achaia* by *Gallienus*. *Macrianus* exceedingly fearing *Valens*, ſent *Piſo* a valiant Gentleman, that had been *Conſul*, to kill him; *Valens* hearing thereof, and ſeeing no other means of ſecurity, aſſumed the Empire; which he enjoyed not long, being ſlain by his own Soldiers, after he had overthrown

IX. *Piſo*; who uſing his enemies policy, had proclaimed himſelf Emperor, aſſuming the name of *Theſſalicus*, from the place whither *Valens* had forced him to retire.

X. *Baliſta* aſſumed the Empire, when *Quietus* was ſlain by *Odenatus*, though pardon was offered him; becauſe he durſt not commit himſelf to *Gallienus*, *Aureolus*, or *Odenatus*. Tr. Pollio *in* 30 *tyrannis*, c. 18. who ſaith, others affirm that he died a private man.

Some report he was killed by *Aureolus*, others by a common Soldier of *Odenatus*. Id. ibid.

Ea temporum illorum ſegnities erat, ut proxima quæque ignorarent, quæ ab ævo noſtro remotiſſima hodie ſcimus ex numis. C. A. Rupertus

Rupertus *in minorem Synopſin Beſoldi*, c. 14.

Baliſta is erroneouſly called *Calliſtus* by *Zonaras*.

Odenatus and his Son *Herod* were no Tyrants, receiving the title of Emperor from *Gallienus* and the Senate. *Triſtan* in his Hiſtorical Commentaries, *tom.* 3.

XI. *Mæonius* was another Uſurper, who out of envy murdered his couſin *Odenatus*, having nothing to object againſt him, but the luxury of his Son *Herod*. Tr. Pollio *ubi ſupra*, c. 16.

E Zonara diſces occiſum Odenatum non a conſobrino, ſed à fratris filio. Cauſam etiam illatæ necis inde cognoſces. Caſaubon.

Pollio in the place above cited ſaith, *Zenobia* grudging that her Son-in-Law *Herod* ſhould be placed before *Herennianus* and *Timolaus*, (whom *Odenatus* had by her ſelf) conſpired with *Mæonius*, who ſoon received his guerdon by the Soldiers.

XII. *Æmilianus* being in danger from a ſedition of the multitude, for his preſervation aſſumed Imperial power in *Egypt*, but was overcome by *Theodotus* a Captain of *Gallienus*, who commanded him to be ſtrangled in priſon. *Tr. Pollio in triginta tyrannis*, c. 21.

XIII. *Saturninus* alſo received there the Imperial dignity from the Army, yet was ſlain for his ſeverity by thoſe very Soldiers who advanced him. *Id. Ib.* c. 22.

XIV. *Trebellianus* uſurping in *Iſauria*, is ſlain by *Cauſiſoleus*, brother to *Theodotus*. Id. ibid. c. 25.

XV. *Celſus*

XV. *Celſus* was elected Emperor by *Fabius Pomponianus* General of *Africk*, and *Vibius Paſſienus* Pro-conſul. He reigned but a week, being put to death by *Gallienæ*, couſen to *Gallienus*; and had his corps eaten by dogs. *Pollio in libro citato*, c. 28.

XVI. *Poſthumus* the Father was the firſt Tyrant among the *Gauls*.

Triſtan thinketh none of the contemporarie Uſurpers are to be compared to him, whom he calleth the French *Hercules*.

Valerian preferred him before *Aurelian*, to be Tutor to *Gallienus*, ſaith *Vopiſcus in Aureliano*, c. 8.

Poſthumus though meanly born, aſſumed the Empire, which he ſo governed for 10 years, that by his great valour and moderation he recovered thoſe Provinces which were almoſt loſt. *Eutropius*, l. 9.

He was ſlain in a tumult of the Soldiers, becauſe he would not permit them to pillage *Mayence* which rebelled againſt him in *Lollianus* his conſpiracy. *Id. Ib.*

XVII. *Poſthumus junior* alſo was ſlain in *Lollianus* his rebellion. *Tr. Pollio in* 30 *tyrannis*, c. 5.

He

He was ſo eloquent in declaming, that his controverſies are ſaid to be inſerted into *Quintilian*. Id. ib. c. 4.

Lollianus is confounded with *Lucius Ælia us* in the Latine *Eutropius*, as appears by his Metaphraſt, *Paanius*.

XVIII. *Lollianus* mounted the throne, where he ſate not with like continuance, though confuſion, as *Poſtumus* did.

Lollianus & Poſthumus *privata virtute clari, non nobilitatis pondere vixerunt.* Pollio *in* 30 *tyrannis*, c. 5.

XIX. The reſtleſs humour of the giddy Commons caſts it ſelf next on *Marius* a Smith, a ſutable ſovereign to their baſe affections; to whom they were no leſs unconſtant & cruel than to the reſt: putting a period to his government after*3 daies, with a ſword of his own forging. *Tr. Pollio in* 30 *tyrannis*, c. 7.

* But both *Pollio* and *Victor*'s aſſertion is queſtioned by *Triſtan*.

Jocularitèr dictum, nequaquam mirum videri, ſi rem Romanam Marius reficere contenderet, quam Marius ejuſdem artis auctor, ſtirpiſque ac nominis, ſolidaviſſet. Victor Schotti.

Tumults ſeem incident to Smiths by fate,
Whoſe very trade doth as an Emblem ſhow
Both the Incendiaries of a State,
And bellows too which the ſedition blow;
The hammers with their harſh tumultuous jar
Make in their brains a kind of civil war.
Allen's Henry *the* 7*th.*

The veins of *Marius* his hand ſeemed as if they were ſinews, he ſtaying carts with his 4th finger: if he gave but a fillip to the ſtrongeſt men that lived in his time, they would feel it as much as if they had been

been ſtruck with an hammer. *Tr. Pollio ubi ſupra.*

XX. *Victorinus* the Father was deputy to *Poſthumus* in *France*, and inferior to none in the office; not to *Trajan* in valour, nor to *Antonine* in clemency, nor to *Nerva* in gravity, nor to *Veſpaſian* in ordering the Treaſury, nor to *Pertinax* or *Severus* in military diſcipline: but all theſe vertues were obſcured by his deſire and uſe of women. *Pollio in* 30 *tyrannis*, c. 6.

He forcing other mens wives, was ſlain at *Colen* in the 2. year of his uſurpation, by a Clark whoſe wife he had raviſhed.

XXI. *Victorinus junior* was ſlain at the ſame time with his Father.

XXII. *Tetricus* the Father aſſumed the Empire by the ſollicitation of *Victoria* or *Victorina*, upon the death of *Victorinus* her ſon, and grand-child.

He aſcended to the Throne with great applauſe, but conſidering the deſperate practiſes of the vulgar, choſe to adorn *Aurelian*'s triumph in a voluntary captivity, rather than rule or live at the devotion of a lawleſs multitude.

XXIII. *Tetricus junior* was named *Ceſar* by *Victoria* or *Vitruvia*, when his Father was ſtyled *Auguſtus*.
He ſubmitted to *Aurelian* as his Father did.

XXIV. *Zenobia* took the government upon her in the name of *Herennianus* and *Timolaus* her ſons, ſaith *Tr. Pollio in triginta tyrannis*, c. 27 and 30. But *Vopiſcus*

in Aureliano, c. 38. writeth, that ſhe held the Empire in the name of *Vaballatbus*, ſon of *Herod*, whom *Odenatus* had by a former Wife.

She was a Lady of ſo ſtrong a vertue, and of ſuch command upon her ſelf, that ſhe is ſaid never to have made uſe of her husbands company, when ſhe perceived her ſelf with child. Dr. *Heylin* in his Geography.

Zenobiam Longini diſcipulam Chriſtianam fuiſſe ſuadere ſatagit magnus Baronius, ſed nondum perſuadet. Langbain in Longinum, p. 53.

She not only inſulted over the *Romans*, but held the *Arabians*, *Saracens*, *Armenians*, and other fierce and intractable people in ſuch awe, that although ſhe were both a woman and a Barbarian, they never ſtirred againſt her. *Tr. Pollio in* 30 *tyrannis*, c. 30. out of *Aurelian* his Epiſtle.

In Occidente per Poſthumum Præſidem Galliæ, in Oriente per Odenatum regulum Palmyrenorum & ejus uxorem Zenobiam, ſervatum imperium. Laet *in Compend. Hiſt. Univ.*

She was ſomewhat brown, had black and bright eies, teeth like pearl, a ſhril and manly voice.

She read the *Roman* hiſtory in Greek, and alſo had her ſelf abridged the *Alexandrian* and all the *Oriental* Hiſtories, whereby ſhe attained the higheſt pitch both of wiſdom

wiſdom and authority. Sir *John Hayward* in his Epiſtle to the Reader before his life of *Henry* the 4th.

Larga prudenter, conſervatrix theſaurorum ultra fœmineum modum. Pollio *ubi ſupra.*

She was led in triumph by *Aurelian*, as well as *Tetricus* both Father and Son.

XXV. *Herennianus* ſon of *Zenobia* was killed by *Aurelian*, ſaith *Tr. Pollio de* 30 *tyrannis*, c. 27.

XXVI. *Timolaus* brother to *Herennianus* had the like fate, as the ſame Author writeth in the place before cited.

He was an excellent Latin Orator. *Pollio de* 30 *tyrannis*, c. 28.

XXVII. *Hermias Vaballathus*, grandchild of *Odenatus*, is reckoned among the Uſurpers in *Gallienus* his time, by *Triſtan* in his Hiſtorical Commentaries, *tom.* 3. and *C. A. Rupertus* on *Beſoldus*'s *minor ſynopſis* of Hiſtory.

XXVIII. *Victoria* or *Vitruvia* for her deſire of rule was called the Mother of Armies.

She was mother to *Victorinus* the elder, who uſurped in thoſe times, and grandmother to the younger Tyrant.

The relations of her death vary.

Non tam digna res erat ut etiam Victorina ſive Victoria, in literas mitteretur, niſi Gallieni mores hoc facerent, ut memoria digna etiam mulieres cenſerentur. Pollio *de* 30 *tyrannis*, c. 31.

XXIX. *Aureolus* aſſumed the Empire by conſtraint of the Soldiery.

He was killed by *Claudius* the Emperor at a bridge, which from that time beareth his name. *Pollio de 30 tyrannis*, c. 11.

XXX. *Antoninus* is reckoned by *Zoſimus* among the Tyrants of thoſe times, but he relateth not where his Uſurpation was; for which *Triſtan* calleth him a negligent and confuſed Hiſtorian.

Titus and *Cenſorinus* are omitted here, (though mentioned by *Tr. Pollio* in his book of Uſurpers) becauſe the one lived in the time of *Maximinus* the Emperor, the other of *Claudius*.

Claudius

Claudius the second } and his Brother } *Quintillus.*

CLAUDIUS was appointed Emperor by the will of ‖ *Gallienus* being ready to die, who by *Gallonius Basilius*, sent the Imperial Robes to him, then at *Ticinum*. *Sextus Aurelius Victor* in his Epitome.

He was elected by the Soldiers before the Walls of *Milain*, and confirmed in *Rome* by the Senate with much joy.

He was so renowned a Prince, that he was said to have* *Augustus* his moderation, *nisi forsan major: sed & spatium regnandi compar; biennium utrique imperandi finem fecit.* Rivii Hist. Navalis Media, *l.* 2. *p.* 90.

‖ *Tantum ad arma & magnifica facinora promptus ac paratus, quantum alter luxu, deliciis & omnibus flagitiis contaminatus.* Olaus Magnus, *fol.* 573.

* *Tito ille Vespasiani filio omni virtutem genere par,*

Trajans vertue, and *Antoninus* his piety met in him.

A Woman deſiring him after he was Emperor, to reſtore an inheritance, which he had unjuſtly took from her when he was but a private perſon; he graciouſly granted her requeſt, ſaying; *Quod Claudius dum privatus erat, nec leges curabat, abſtulit; factus Imperator reſtituit.* Zonaras.

In his time *Athens* was ranſacked by *Gothes*, who piled heaps of Books to burn, but were adviſed by one to forbear, that the *Grecians* ſpending their time in them, might be leſs fit for war. *Cedrenus*, *B. Egnatius. Judicium barbari non prorſus vanum. Etſi Cleodemus Athenienſis fuga elapſus, coactaque manu & navibus hoſtes invadens, Græcis librorum tractatione virtutem non demi ipſorum clade docuit.* Heidmannus *in Epitome Hiſtorica de Imp. Rom.*

Aureolus being ſlain by his own company, *Claudius* received the government of thoſe Countries; and fighting againſt the *Almains*, he overthrew above half of them. *S. Aur. Victor.*

He waged war with the *Gothes*, who infeſted the Empire 15 years with continual irruptions (ſaith *Iornandes*) and now in league with many barbarous Nations, invaded *Thrace* and the Countries before them, even to *Macedonia*; and thence came through *Hungary* down *Danubius* with 2000 ſail of Ships fraught with ammunition

munition and men: to meet which *Claudius* prepared, and engaged them ſo valiantly, that he ſlew and took 320000 men, and 2000 Ships laden with ſhields, ſwords, lances, &c. ſo that houſes were filled therewith.

Hic autem quid dicam ſatis hæreo: unum tamen o Claudi, *ſive* Glaudiane *ſcriptor hic admiror: ſi tot Gothorum millia in hoc bello corruerunt, rogo unde iterum tot Gothi confeſtim ſuccreverint, vireſque reparaverint, ut vix anno elapſo difficilimum negotium potentiſſimo duci* Aureliano, *& toti Romanæ Reipub. faceſſere potuiſſent? proinde ſi Gothis æque doctus ſcriptor accidiſſet, quemadmodum Romanis, multa utique aliter de ſua gente tradidiſſet: quamvis adhuc nonnulla vetuſtiſſima fragmenta Gothicæ hiſtoriæ in eorum prima patria inveniantur, ex quorum antiquitate aliquando conſummatior hiſtoria de Gothicis rebus (ut ſpero) elicietur: interim oportebit ut nobis ex illis hiſtoriarum monimentis quæ à Romanis traduntur, ſatisfactum putemus. Attendendum tamen eſt teſtimonium Tiberiani, & Flavii Vopiſci, qui aſſerunt Trebellium in hiſtoria Claudiana adulationibus corruptum plura addidiſſe veritati: quibus ego eo facilius conſentio, dum excepto eo Trebellio, priſcorum nullus tot occiſorum recordetur. Præterea Sabellicus de ipſo Trebellio ait, quod de Claudio è familia Conſtantini prognato adulatione plena omnia ſcripſit.* Olaus Magnus, p. 678.

He intended to go againſt *Tetricus* and *Zenobia*, but was hindred by a fever which ſoon put an end to his life. He reigned 1 year, 10 months and 15 daies. He was deifyed by the Senate; had a ſtatue of gold 10 foot high erected in the *Capitol* in honour of him by the people at their own coſt, (which they never did to any before:) and a target of the ſame metal, with his picture in it, was hung up in the Court by the Senates appointment. There was alſo by general conſent ſet up for him a pillar compoſed of the prows of Ships; upon which was placed his ſtatue, repreſenting him clothed with his *Conſular* Robe, of 1500 pound weight of ſilver.

It was a providence, that *Claudius* found the Empire ſo beſet with enemies, that he could not exerciſe ſo much cruelty as he intended againſt the Chriſtians. *R. B.* of the Roman Emperors.

Julian feigneth that the Gods ſeeing *Claudius* enter the place where they aſſembled to banquet, received him very honourably, admiring his magnanimity, and eſteeming him worthy of poſterity that ſhould enjoy the Empire a long time, becauſe he ſhewed ſo much love to his Country. After at the end of his *Ceſars* this Apoſtate (who hated the memory of *Conſtantine* and his ſons, for their aboliſhing idolatrous worſhip in many places) ſaith; the Gods tormented *Conſtantine* and

and his children in Hell a great while for cruelty to their relations, but at length *Jupiter* delivered them from their torments, for the ſake of *Claudius* and *Conſtantius* Father of *Conſtantine*: the reaſon of which fiction was certainly, becauſe *Claudius* was a great Perſecutor. *Triſtan.*

After *Claudius*, his brother *Quintillus* was choſen Emperor by conſent of the Soldiers; being a perſon of ſingular moderation, and courteous, worthy to be compared with his brother, or rather to be preferred before him: the Senate alſo conſented to the election. But being unable to reſiſt *Aurelian*, choſen at the ſame time by part of the Army, he made away himſelf by opening a vein (at *Tarſus* in *Cilicia*) ſay ſome, having reigned but 17 daies; but others write that he was killed by the Soldiers.

Claudius inſigni memorandus clade Gothorum,
Quem rapit ante annos invida parca duos.
Boiſſardus.

Aurelianus.

L. Domitius Aurelianus.

HIS Parents being mean, he followed the Wars, and advanced himself thereby.

There being in the Army another Tribune, who was named *Aurelian*, and had been taken prisoner with *Valerian* the Emperor; to distinguish the one from the other, this was called *Aurelian with his hand upon his Sword*: he being upon all occasions with a weapon in his hand, ready for service. *Vopiscus in Aureliano*, c. 6.

Aurelianus *manu ad ferrum.*

He made no use of Physitians when he was sick, but cured all excess by abstinence. *Id. Ib.* c. 50.

He

He delighted exceedingly in a Glutton who at his Table in one day ate a whole Boar, and 100 loaves, with a Weather and a Pig; drinking through a tun-diſh *plus orca*: which *Lipſius* ſaith was bigger than the *Amphora*, but how much he knoweth not. *Id. Ibid.* c. 50.

The *Amphora Capitolina* held 6 gallons, ſaith Dr. *Hackwel* in his Apol.

He was wont to ſay of *Bonoſus*, *Non ut vivat natus eſt, ſed ut bibat*; "He was not "born to draw in breath, but beer. *Vopiſcus in quadriga tyrannorum*, c. 14.

Aurelian married this *Bonoſus* a Spaniard (but ſon of an Engliſh man) to *Hunila* a noble Gothiſh Woman, meerly that by her means he might diſcover the *Gothes* ſecrets. *Vopiſcus in quadriga tyrannorum*, c. 15.

Sagaciſſimus Quæſitor eſt Fœmina.
Blandè torquendo verum extorquet.
Tergiverſari difficile eſt,
Cum Apparitor Cupido faces admovet.
Eman. Theſaurus *in Samſone.*

Aurelian appointed *Bonoſus* to carouſe with Embaſſadors, that they might be brought to bewray ſecrets by this *lene tormentum*; whileſt he (who had this wonderful property, that he could piſs as faſt as he drunk, without containing any jot within his body) faultred not, but was more diſcreet. *Id. Ib.*

[*Schenkius arma nunquam accuratius tractabat, quàm quum effusè potus, ac vino ameus: immo ebrietate ipſa, quæ reſignare ac*

ac aperire occulta quæque conſueverit, illum ad arcana occultanda uti ſolitum ferunt. Strada *Belli Belgici Decade ſecunda*, l. 10.]

Aurelian was Colonel of Horſe under *Claudius* in *Perſia*; he ſlew in one day 48 of his Enemies with his own hands in the War againſt the *Sarmatians*: and ſlew in ſeveral daies above 950; whereupon Ballads were ſung by Boyes on Feſtivals in praiſe of him.

Mille, mille, mille decollavimus,
Unus homo mille decollavimus,
Mille vivat, qui mille occidit.
Tantum vini habet nemo,
Quantum fudit ſanguinis.

Vopiſcus in Aureliano, c. 6. as *Salmaſius* hath corrected the printed Copy from the Manuſcripts.

When the Enemies of the *Romans* had overrun all *France*, he made ſuch havock of them at *Mentz*, that he ſlew 700, and ſold 300 *ſub corona*; upon which occaſion new Jigges were made.

Mille Sarmatas, mille Francos
Semel & ſemel occidimus;
Mille Perſas quærimus.

Id. ib. according to the Manuſcript Copies.

He overcame all his Enemies in 3 years, whereas *Alexander* the Great travelled 13 years by great victories, before he came into *India*; *Cæſar* ſpent 10 years in overcoming the *Gauls*, and 4 years in conquering the *Romans*. *Sextus Aurelius Victor* in his Epitome.

He was the firſt Roman Emperor that wore

wore a Diadem on his head, and alſo uſed garments of gold and precious ſtones, which before that time the Romans were little acquainted with. *Id. ibid.*

He cauſed a Soldier, who had committed adultery with his Hoſteſs, to have his feet tyed to the tops of 2 Trees bent downward, and ſuffered ſuddenly to ſtart back again; ſo the wretch was twitched in ſunder, and hung on both ſides in halves.

He wrote to one of his Lieutenants; "If "thou wilt be a Captain, nay if thou wilt "live, contain thy Soldiers in their duty. "I will not have a peaſant wronged in a "Chicken, nor a Grape taken without "his permiſſion; not a grain of Salt or a "drop of Oil unjuſtly exacted. I deſire "my Soldiers ſhould be enriched with "ſpoils of Enemies, not the tears of my "Subjects. I would have them chaſt in "their Quarters, and no Quarrelers. Which commands *Baronius* compareth with that of *John* the *Baptiſt* to the Soldiers, *Luk.* 3. 14. *Vopiſcus in Aureliano, c.* 7.

Hujuſmodi erat militaris diſciplina ſub Imperatore Ethnico; quam ſi noſtri Chriſtiani Reges ſervarent, profecto hoſtibus formidabiliores, & civibus amabiliores haberentur, nihilq; tam nobili eorum virtuti uſquam prævaleret. Olaus Magnus, *l.*17. *de rebus ſeptentr. p.* 675.

He advanced *Tetricus* (one of the 30 Tyrants in *Gallienus* his time, whom he overcame)

came) and made him Provoſt of *Lucania* who had been before proclaimed Emperor by the *French* Army; elegantly upbraiding him, "That it was more ma-"jeſtical to rule ſome part of *Italy*, than "to reign beyond the *Alpes*. *Sextus Aurelius Victor*'s Epitome.

See in Sir *Thomas Herberts* Travels the pillar of beaſt heads erected at *Spahawn* on ſuch an occaſion.

Being incenſed againſt *Tyana*, becauſe the Gates of the City were ſhut againſt him, he vowed, "He would not leave a "Dog in it; But having taken it, upon a fright by the ghoſt of *Apollonius Tyaneus* (dead long before) he commanded his Soldiers to kill all the Dogs, but ſpare the Citizens. *Vopiſcus in Aureliano*, c. 23.

This ſtory if it was not true, it was handſomely contrived, both for the keeping up the honour of the deifyed *Apollonius*, by making him ſo ſeaſonably deliver his native Town in ſo great an exigency; and alſo for the ſaving of the Emperors credit with the Soldiers, that he might ſeem by Divine powers to be abſolved from that rigid vow, of giving the whole Town up to the ſlaughter and plunder of the Soldiery. Dr. *Mores* Explanation of the grand Myſtery of Godlineſs, p. 151.

Aurelian demanding how he might govern well, was anſwered by a great perſonage: "You muſt be provided with I-"ron and Gold; Iron to uſe againſt your "Enemies, and Gold to reward your "Friends. *Zonaras.*

Amicos ſuos honeſtè ditavit & modice; ut miſeriam paupertatis effugerent, & divitiarum invidiam patrimonii moderatione vitarent. Vopiſcus *in Aureliano.*

Aure-

Aurelian *take this counsel: to bestow*
Gold on his men, and Iron on his fo.
Aleyn's *Battel of Poictiers*, p. 120.

Aurelian's chief engagement was againſt *Zenobia*, the moſt beautiful, chaſt, learned, wiſe, and valiant Woman of that age.

Her Letter in anſwer to him (who ſorely tired, proffered her life, and liberty, and wealth, if ſhe would yield) ſheweth her reſolves for fight.

He was ſo enraged at her haughty reply, that he forthwith beſieged *Palmyra*, deſtroyed her aids, and at laſt took Her priſoner, whom he led in triumph; *ea ſpecie, ut nihil pompabilius populo Rom. videretur*, ſaith *Treb. Pollio in Zenobia*.

He put *Longinus* to death upon a ſuppoſition that he dictated *Zenobia*'s Epiſtle.

He is called *Neceſſarius magis quàm bonus Imperator*, a Prince rather neceſſary than good; becauſe he wanted clemency, ſaith *Vopiſcus*.

He was ſo bloudy, that he put to death his own Sifters ſon.

Being about to ſign an Edict for the 9th perſecution (of which he was the Author) God hindred his purpoſe, cramping as it were his knuckles, manifeſting to all, that the Princes of this world have no power to practiſe any thing againſt the Church, any farther than God permitteth. *Euſebius*, l. 7.

At

Nona correptio fuit, cum Aureliano persecutionem decernenti, diris turbinibus terribile ac triste fulmen sub ipsius pedibus ruit, ostendens quid, cum ultio talis exigeret, tantum posset ultor, nisi & clemens esset & patiens: quanquam intra sex abhinc menses succidui tres Imperatores, hoc est, Aurelianus, Tacitus *&* Florianus *diversis causis interfecti sunt.* Orosius, *l.* 7. *c.* 27.

At the same time also a Thunder-bolt fell so near him, that all thought he was slain; by which messenger God warned him to be wise, lest he perished in those destructive waies, as shortly after he did; *Mnestheus* his Secretary fearing punishment for some offence, for which the Emperor threatned him with death, and knowing that he used not to pardon if he threatned, counterfeited the Emperors hand, and wrote the names of many in a rowl as appointed by him to die; mixing the names of some, with whom the Emperor was truly offended, with those of others whom he was not displeased with, adding his own name that he might the easilier be believed. They upon sight hereof, thinking to prevent the worst, slew him in a Castle called *Cano-phrurium*, betwixt *Byzantium* and *Heraclea*.

Id vero in ultionem Sanguinis Christiani, ab eo effusi contigisse, Constantinus Magnus in quadam Orat. ait. Baron. Anno Christi 278. *num.* 1. Besoldus *in majore Synopsi Historiæ Universalis, p.* 179.

When *Mnestheus* his Treason was discovered, he was cast to wild beasts as appeareth by marble pillars placed on both sides the monument erected in honour of *Aurelian*, even by those who slew him. *Vopiscus in Aureliano*, c. 37.

When the Treasury was emptied after *Gallienus* and the calamities of the Common-wealth, *Aurelian* came in manner of

of a torrent upon the rich. *Ammianus Marcellinus*, l. 30. c. 28.

He reigned 4 years 11 months and 7 daies. *Vopiſcus* calleth him *Bonum Medicum, ſed malâ ratione curantem*; A good Phyſitian, had not he adminiſtred too bitter potions: in reference to which *Julian* feigneth, that he had much ado to defend himſelf at the Tribunal of *Minos*, before whom many accuſed him of injuſtice; but that the *Sun*, who had alwaies in his life ſpecially aſſiſted him in all his enterpriſes, excuſed him to the other Gods, ſaying, "That he had been pu-"niſhed enough by his death, according to the Delphick Oracle, which ſaith:

Εἰγε πάθοι τὰ κ' ἔρεξε, δίκη δ' ἰθεῖα γένοιτο.
Judicium, ſi quis quæ fecit perferat, æquum eſt.

Porphyrie that ſurly Antichriſtian Predicabiliſt grumbled againſt Chriſtians in his time. Biſhop *Prideaux*'s Introduction to Hiſtory.

Triginta circiter ſcriptores Catholici blaſphemias ejus refutarunt: ſi qua fides Fl. Lucii Dextri Chronicis. Lucas Holſtenius *De vita & Scriptis Porphyrii*, p. 14 and 62.

Reginam fruſtra optaras, Auguſte, triumpho:
Eluſit propria te generoſa nece.
Sors nobis melior. Pars ſpectatiſſima pompæ
Ducta ante eſt currus fœmina victa meos.
Anonymus.

Tacitus, and his Brother *Florianus*.

UPon the death of *Aurelian*, the Soldiers who would not have any of his Aſſaſſinates to ſucceed, ſent to the Senate to chuſe an Emperor; the Senate refer the election to the Soldiers, who, they knew, uſed not to be pleaſed with the Senates choice: half a year paſſed in complements with a peaceable *interregnum*, at laſt the Senate and Soldiers jointly elect *Tacitus*.

He retired to his Mannor in *Campania*, where he was ſecret 2 months, ſhunning that dignity which might prove his overthrow; was often ſollicited, but with hearty

hearty thanks abſolutely denyed; affirming his age made him unable to ſatisfy expectations: at length, neceſſity of ſtate ſo requiring, he accepted of their proffer; at which all rejoyced but himſelf.

He was ſo abſtemious, that he never drank a pinte of wine in a day, and often leſs than half a one. *Vopiſcus in Tacito, c.* 11.

He was ſuch an example of moderation to others, that he permitted not his Empreſs to wear jewels.

He honoured *Tacitus* the Hiſtorian, whom he called his Father, commanded his Works to be put in every Library through the Empire, to be tranſcribed 10 times every year at publick coſt. *Vopiſcus in Tacito*, c. 10.

He called *September Tacitus*, becauſe he was born and made Emperor in that month. *Vopiſcus in Tacito*, c. 13.

When the Senate choſe him Emperor, they cryed out, *Quis melius quàm gravis imperat? & quis melius quàm* *literatus imperat?*

* He hath a place in *Barlandus's Literati urbis Romæ Principes.*

When he objected his age, they anſwered, that *Trajan*, *Adrian*, and *Antoninus* were old when they came to the Empire; whom they mentioned becauſe they reigned well and fortunately: omitting *Veſpaſian*, *Nerva*, *Pertinax*, *Macrinus* and *Decius*, who came older to the Empire; but their reign was ſhort, eſpecially that of the four laſt: the three laſt alſo dyed a violent death. *Triſtan.*

When the Senate denyed him the Conſulſhip,

ſulſhip, which he ſought for his brother *Florianus*, he took it very well, ſaying; *Scit Senatus quem Principem fecerit.* Vopiſcus.

He gave the Soldiers all the money he had in ſilver, which was a great ſum; he having had more than 9 millions in gold for his patrimony.

His death proceeded from grief occaſioned by factions, infirmity of age helping to break his heart, when he had reigned * 6 months. *Vopiſcus in Tacito*, c. 13. and *Eutropius*, l. 9.

* Above a year ſaith *Chriſt. Adamus Rupertus* on *Beſoldus* his *minor Synopſis* of Hiſtory.

His brother *Florianus* ambitiouſly ſtrove to get the Empire as true heir, though he knew *Tacitus* was engaged to the Senate, that he would prefer worth before his relations in the deſignation of his Succeſſor.

Florianus Taciti frater arripuit Purpuram, qua ſecundo menſe exutus à Probo, dominationis umbram cum morte mutavit. Buſſieres *in Floſculis Hiſtoriarum.*

Being not able to withſtand *Probus* who was choſen by the Army, he was killed by the Soldiers, ſay ſome; but moſt write, that having as it were in ſport ſwayed the Empire but 60 daies, by opening a vein he killed himſelf at *Tarſus*: as *Quintillus* alſo did, who was reduced to the ſame extremity.

Theod. Metochita, *Glycas* and *Cædrenus* write, that *Probus* killed him counterfeting the fool.

Accipit imperium Tacitus præbente ſenatu,
At cito caſtrenſi ſeditione cadit.
Velius.

Probus.

Probus.

UPon *Tacitus* his death, the Army unanimouſly cryed out, "Let us have "*Probus* for our Emperor: and the Senate with applauſe confirmed the election.

The manner of his being choſen by the Soldiers was thus; The Officers told them the requiſites of one that ſhould be elected, that he ſhould be *Fortis*, *Sanctus*, *Verecundus*, *Clemens*, *Probus*: which when it was ſpoke to many Companies, on all ſides they cryed out as it were by a divine inſtinct, *Probe Auguſte*, *Dii te ſervent*. Vopiſcus *in Probo*.

Valerian the Emperor called him *Verè Probum*, ſaying in an Epiſtle, that if he had not had *Probus* for his *name*, he deſerved to have had it for his * *ſurname*. Id. ib. c. 4.

* *Vir, ſi quis unquam in illo imperio, magnus ſimul & bonus.* Rivii *Hiſt. Navalis media. l.* 2. *p.* 91.

He was made Tribune by *Valerian*, in which office he ſerved under *Gallienus*, *Claudius*, *Aurelian*, and *Tacitus*.

He was ſo noble a warrior, and mighty in feats of Arms, that the Senate wiſhed for him, the Soldiers choſe him, and the people of *Rome* with open acclamation called for him.

His firſt ſervice after he became Emperor, was in *France*, againſt the *Germans* who had conquered it; where in one battel he ſlew almoſt 400000 *Germans*, 9 of whoſe * Kings proſtrated themſelves at his feet: he won alſo and repaired 70 of their Cities in leſs than 7 years.

Vopiſcus in Probo, c. 13, 14, 15. *Julianus in Cæſaribus.*

* *Quibus obſides, frumentum, ac poſtremo etiam pecudes imperavit, in præſens uſui, in futurum terrori.* Doulæ *filii Batavia*, *p.* 30.

Non omittenda hic bella quæ ab eodem Imperatore ad Rhenum geſta referuntur a Zoſimo: quæ in his locis potiſſimum accidiſſe haud abſimile vero eſt, quum captivos in Britanniam miſſos idem referat, præſertim tam opportuno trajectu. Initio belli graviſſima fame a Romanis laboratum, qua tandem liberati eo miraculo, ut fides rerum commento fabulæ adumbrata videatur. Quippe magna vis aquæ cœlo miſſa una cum imbre frumentum detulit, cujus acervi ſponte ſtructi multis locis. Obſtupefactis ad rem novam atque incredibilem omnibus qui aderant, initio quidem, Religione quadam obſtrictis mentibus frumentum attingere

gere non audebant. Verum tandem, ubi neceſſitas metum vicit, panes ex eo cocti ita ad uſum ipſis ſuffecerunt, ut pulſa fame alacriores ad belli munia animos adferrent: atque ad extremum virtute ſua, atque Imperatoris Fortuna ſuperiores diſcederent. Hujus prodigioſæ pluviæ meminit quoque Cedrenus, nulla tamen aut belli, aut loci (ubi id accidit) facta mentione. Douſæ *filii Batavia*, p. 31.

The *Egyptians* electing *Saturninus* a wiſe and valiant Captain Emperor, ſo ſore againſt his will, that he was like to be ſlain for gain-ſaying their deſires; *Probus* haſting towards them offered them pardon, out of an unwillingneſs to ſhed civil blood, or to loſe ſuch a man as *Saturninus*: but upon refuſal of his clemency, he engaged in a ſharp battel, wherein moſt of the revolters were overthrown, and *Saturninus* ſlain in the aſſault of a beſieged Caſtle, to the grief of *Probus* who ſought to ſave his life. *Vopiſcus in quadriga tyrannorum*, c. 11.

Bonoſus had charge of Ships, which the *Germans* burned in the mouth of the *Rhine* through his negligence, if not treachery; who fearing puniſhment for his fault, rebelled likewiſe againſt *Probus*, but was overcome and through deſpair hung himſelf: whereupon it was ſaid, *Amphoram pendere, non hominem*; *That a barrel or tankard hung there, and not a man*; becauſe he was ſo given to drink. *Vopiſcus ibidem*, c. 15.

For he that holds more wine than others can,
I rather count a Hogs-head than a man.
Randolph in his Poems, 35th Precept, or Neceſſary Obſervation.

There rebelled alſo againſt *Probus*, *Proculus* as inſatiate a vaſſal to *Venus*, as *Bonoſus* was to *Bacchus*; ſo impudent that he did not only commit filthineſs, but boaſted of it, as appeareth by his Letter wherein he braggeth that having taken 100 *Sarmatian* Virgins he deprived 10 of that name in a night, and all the reſt within a fortnight: *inter fortes ſe haberi credens, ſi criminum denſitate coaleſcat.* Id. ibid. c. 12.

Probus honoured *Aradion* a moſt valiant man (whom he overcame in wreſtling) with a Tomb 200 foot broad remaining in *Vopiſcus* his time; which he cauſed the Soldiers, whom he never ſuffered to be idle, to erect: teſtifying the greatneſs of his reſpect by the largeneſs of his monument. *Vopiſcus in Probo, c. 9.*

Quo latior agri modus ſepulchro aſſignabatur, eo magis creſcebat honos. Caſaubonus.

Being preſented with a Horſe taken in War, which it was ſaid, could go 100 miles in a day, for 8 or 10 daies together, he ſaid, "He was fitter for a cowardly, "than a valiant Soldier. *Id. ib.* c. 8.

Some ſay he was the laſt Emperor who triumphed, after his Victory over the *Germans* and the *Blemyæ* a people of *Africk*.

He

He commanded to be let looſe at once 1000 Eſtriches, 1000 Stags, 1000 wild Boars, 1000 fallow Deer, beſide wild Goats, wild Sheep, and other creatures which fed upon graſs, as many as could be fed or found; which he gave to the people to catch as they could: the *Circus* being ſet all over with great trees, which by the Soldiers were taken up by the roots, as they grew in the woods, and planted there with green turf about them, and faſtned with beams and irons: next day he let into the ſame place 100 maned Lyons, (which filled the air with roaring as if it had thundred;) 100 *Lybian* Leopards, 100 *Syrian*, 100 Lioneſſes, and 300 Bears. *Vopiſcus in Probo*, *c.* 19.

As *Hanibal* filled moſt parts of *Africk* with Olive-yards planted by his Soldiers that they might not be idle, to the endangering of the Common-wealth; ſo *Probus*, (who for his famous acts is compared with *Hannibal* and *Ceſar*) for the ſame reaſon cauſed the Soldiers to plant vineyards throughout all *France*, both the *Pannonias*, and the *Myſian* hills. *Aur. Victor.*

He was a valiant and juſt perſon, matched *Aurelian* for military renown, and exceeded him in courteous behaviour. *Eutropius*, l. 9.

He

He undid himſelf by that ſpeech of his *Brevi milites neceſſarios non futuros*: wherewith the Soldiers being offended murdered him, when he had lived 75 years, and reigned*6 years 4 months; others ſay 6 years.

Flav. Vopiſcus tres cauſas Probi mortis recitat. Primam, quod milites nunquam ocioſos permiſit. Secundam; quod dixerat brevi fore, ut nullis militibus opus ſit. Tertiam, quod in patria ſua amplianda ad ſordida ac ſervilia miniſteria milites coegiſſet. Glarenus *in Eutropium.*

* *Quamvis quinto imperii anno interfectum ſcribit Vopiſcus; tamen alii omnes ipſi adverſi ſunt.* Chr. Ad. Rupert. *Obſervat in Beſoldi ſynop. min. p.* 388.

Cum Probus imperii frænos & jura teneret,
Tam pax tranquillo dulcis in orbe fuit,
Cæſar ut ipſe brevi poſt diceret eſſe futurum,
Non opus ut caſtris præſidioque foret.
Audiit hoc miles, motuſque his vocibus, ipſum
Interimit ſtricto cominus enſe Probum.
Lingua quod incauto peccans effutiit ore,
Hoc animæ fraudi ſæpius eſſe ſolet.

Pantaleon Candidus *in Epigrammat. Hiſtoricis, p.* 157, 158.

Julian (in his *Ceſars*) feigneth that *Silenus* reproached him with ſeverity towards his Soldiers; who addeth that he underwent deſerved puniſhment, though unjuſtly inflicted by them.

It is thought, that becauſe he ſuffered the Chriſtians to live in peace, God gave him ſo many victories againſt the Barbarians. *R. B.* of the *Roman* Emperors.

Hic ille eſt, cujus gemmant tibi munere vites,
Gallia; cui libes cum tua vina bibis.
Verè dat pacem, bellis Probus orbe fugatis,
Qui tribuit curis ſolvere corda mero.

Anonymus.

Carus,

Carus, with his Sons { *Carinus* and *Numerianus*

Robus being slain, the Army chose *P Carus* Emperor, whereunto the Senate consented.

Aurelius Carum & Numerianum filios collegas sibi assumpsit, quorum hic probus, ille adeo protervus ut pater sæpius exclamaret, Non est meus. Jo. Lætus in Compend. Hist. Univ.

The *Sarmatians* threatning *Italy*, he engaged with them, and overthrew them

with

with the ſlaughter of 16000, taking 20000 priſoners. *Vopiſcus in Caro*, c. 9.

Leaving *Carinus* his elder Son to govern *Britain*, *France*, *Illyricum* and *Spain*; he prepared with *Numerian* againſt the *Perſians*, in which expedition he took in his way *Meſopotamia*, *Cteſiphon*, *&c.* Whereby he purchaſed the ſurname of *Perſicus*.

Embaſſadors coming to him from the King of *Perſia*, find him lying upon the graſs, eating black broth and morſels of ſwines-fleſh; whom he bad to tel their young maſter: "If he continued obſti-"nate, within one month all his woods "and fields ſhould be as bare as his bald "pate; which he ſhewed: offering them to eat out of the Pot, if they pleaſed, otherwiſe to depart forthwith. *Lipſius* in his notes to his ſecond Book of Politicks and the fifteenth Chapter out of *Syneſius de Regno*, where ſee *Petavius*, who applieth it to *Probus*.

Quamvis ethnicus, eccleſiam Theſſalonicenſem à tributis immunem fecit. *Chr. Schotanus* in his Catalogue of *Ceſars*, at the end of *Sulp. Severus*'s Hiſtory continued by himſelf.

Surprized with ſickneſs he pitched his Tent on the ſhore of *Tigris*; where he and others were ſlain in their beds by a thunder-bolt.

——— *Fulmine captus Imperator*
Vitam fulminibus parem peregit.
Sidonius Apollinaris.

Memorabile

Memorabile maximè Cari, & Carini, & Numeriani hoc habuit imperium, quod ludos Romanos novis ornatos ſpectaculis dederunt, quos in palatio circa porticum ſtabuli pictos vidimus. Vopiſcus *in Caro, Numeriano & Carino, c.* 19.

Arrius Aper a *Pretorian Prefect* having murdered *Numerian* (his Son-in-law) being troubled with ſore eies upon his return from *Perſia* (ſaith *Zonaras*) pretended to thoſe of the Army who enquired how he did, that his infirmity only kept him from ſight, but at length his treaſon was diſcovered by the putrefaction of *Numerian*'s body. Whereupon *Aper* being brought by the Soldiers before the Tribunal, was ſlain by *Diocletian*; who was both his Judge and Executioner. *Vopiſcus in Numeriano.*

Numerianus poſt Cari parentis obitum, ex Oriente, ac Perſide rediens, à ſocero in itinere eſt interfectus; recenti adhuc Cari funere: cui pius juvenis præter modum illacrymans, oculorem in morbum inciderat. Petavius *De Doctrina Temporum, p.* 11. *c.* 26.

In the life of *Carus*, written by *Eutropius* in the later edition ſet forth by *Frobenius*, I find (which in other editions of *Eutropius* doth not appear) that *Numerianus* ſlew *Babylas* the Martyr. But that ſeemeth not likely, both by narration of *Chryſoſtom* and *Urſpergenſis*, who, declaring the ſame hiſtory, and in the ſame words, as it is in *Eutropius*, ſaith it was *Cyrillus* whom *Numerian* killed, the ſtory whereof is this: When *Carus* in his journey toward the *Perſians* remained at *Antioch*, *Numerian* would enter into the Chriſtians Church, to view their Myſteries. But *Cyril* their Biſhop would not ſuffer

ſuffer him, ſaying; "It was not lawful "for him to ſee the myſteries of God, "who was polluted with the ſacrifice of "Idols. *Numerian* not ſuffering that repulſe at the hands of *Cyril*, in his fury ſlew the godly Martyr; and therefore juſtly (as it ſeemeth) was himſelf ſlain by the hands of *Aper*. *Fox* his Acts and Monuments of the Church, *tom.* 1. *p.* 69.

Calpurnius the Poet was Secretary to *Carus*, and after him to *Numerian*, ſaith *Vopiſcus in vita Cari*. *Nemeſianus* the Poet was alſo contemporary with *Carus* and his Sons.

Numerianus verſu talis fuiſſe prædicatur, ut omnes Poetas ſui temporis vicerit. Nam & cum Olympio Nemeſiano contendit, qui ἀλιευτικὰ, κυνηγετικὰ, & ναυτικὰ ſcripſit, quique omnibus coloniis illuſtratus emicuit, & Aurelium Apollinarem iamborum ſcriptorem, qui patris ejus geſta in literas retulit, iiſdem, quæ recitaverat editis, veluti radio ſolis obtexit. Vopiſcus *in Numeriano*, *c.* 11.

Carinus gave himſelf to all luſts, married 9 Wives, and then divorced them being big with child; he was twice overcome by *Diocletian*, and ſlain by a Tribune, whoſe Wife he had abuſed. *Vopiſcus in Carino*.

Triſtan parallels *Carinus* with *Gallienus*.

Some ſay *Carus* and his Sons reigned but 2 years or ſomewhat more, others ſay but a little above one.

Theſe 7 Emperors, *Claudius*, his brother *Quintillus*, *Aurelian*, *Tacitus*, his brother *Florian*, *Probus* and *Carus* reigned but 18 years. *Lloids* Conſent of Times.

Perſica diminues victricibus agmina ſignis:
Fœlix, ni torto fulminis igne cadas.
Boiſſardus.

Diocletian

Diocletian and *Maximian* Collegues.

Diocletian's parentage is uncertainly reported, ſome making him the ſon of a Scrivener, & others of a bondman made free by *Anulinus* a Senator: but all agree he was a *Dalmatian* of baſe birth.

Hæc eadem eſt Dalmatia quæ Hieronymum ceu patronum eccleſiarum, & quem nemo Latinorum lucubrando vicit, nobis dedit. Tam verè igitur quàm eleganter a Sulmonenſi vate dictum eſt:

Terra

Terra ſalutiferas herbas eademque nocentes
Gignit, & urticæ proxima ſæpe roſa eſt.
Vadiani *Epitome trium terræ partium.*

The name of his Mother (and of the Town wherein he was born) was *Dioclea*, whence he was called *Diocles* till he came to be Emperor, and then named himſelf *Diocletian* (converting a Greek name into a Roman form) and upon the conqueſt of the *Perſians* and *Egyptians*, * *Jovius*; as *Maximian* his Collegue ſtiled himſelf *Herculius*: *velut ille* Jovis, *hic* Herculis *hæres* ſaith *P. Lætus*, who parallels *Diocletian* with *Jupiter*, and *Maximian* with *Hercules*.

* *Jovii cognomentum primus ſibi ſumpſit Diocletianus, ut collega ejus Maximianus Herculii. poſtea cum Cæſares facti eſſent Conſtantius & Galerius: Galerius quidem qui Diocletiani filiam duxerat, & qui cum Diocletiano in Oriente fere ſemper verſatus eſt, Cæſar Jovius eſt appellatus. Sic enim in Chronico Alexandrino dicitur, & in vetere nummo quem edidit Johannes Triſtanus. Conſtantius vero, utpote qui Maximiani Herculii privignam duxerat, & cum illo in Occidente verſabatur, Cæſar Herculius dictus eſt, ut ex vetere panegyrico obſervavit frater meus Hadrianus Valeſius. Mortuo deinde Galerio, Maximinus qui Cæſar ab illo factus fuerat, cognomentum Jovii aſſumpſit, ut ex hoc Euſebii loco diſcimus.* Valeſius *in Euſebium*, p. 186.

Jupiter, gigantes, ut cœli regiam defenderet, perdidit; Diocletianus, ut orbis terrarum regiam tueretur, tyrannos ſurgentes, ut Centimanos, diligenti cura delevit; ſaith the ſame Author *in Rom. Hiſt. Comp.*

Maximianus ſe progeniem eſſe Herculis non adulationibus fabuloſis, ſed æquatis virtutibus comprobavit. Paneg. *Conſt. dictus.*

Jovius & Herculius a Gallis adeo dilecti, ut ab eis duo populi nomina ſumpſerint Jovianorum & Herculiorum; & Viennenſes duas urbis portas, Joviam & Herculeam appellavere, ut epigrammata docent. Pomponius Lætus, *ubi ſupra.*

When

When *Diocletian* ſerving as a common Soldier in *France*, reckoned with his hoſteſs (one of the *Druids*) ſhe told him he was too penurious; he jeaſtingly anſwered, that he would be bountiful when he came to be Emperor of *Rome*: ſhe bid him not mock, ſaying; *Imperator eris cum aprum occideris*. From that time he hunted often and killed many boars, to ſee if a Crown would ſpring from their blood; but ſtill miſſed the Empire, which *Aurelian*, *Tacitus*, *Probus* and *Carus* obtained, whereupon he ſaid: "I kill many boars, "but others go away with the fleſh. At laſt *Aper* having killed *Numerianus* (as is above mentioned) was brought by the Soldiers before *Diocletian*, who being told his name, (and concluding at length that the prediction was to be underſtood of a man) preſently killed him; in outward ſhew for zeal of juſtice, as being not able to endure ſo foul a fact, but in truth to fulfil the prediction of his hoſteſs the *Druid*: for that *Aper* ſignifieth a Boar. *Vopiſcus in Numeriano* ſaith, that his Grand-father, from whom he had this report, was preſent when *Aper* was ſlain, to whom *Dioeletian*, when he ſtruck him, ſaid in a bravado; *Gloriare Aper, Æneæ magni dextra cadis*: adding; *Tandem Aprum fatalem occidi*. Vopiſcus *in Caro, Numeriano, &c.* c. 15, 16.

Oraculum apud Plutarchum monebat quendam ut anguem ſedulo vitaret: id cum præſtaret ille, in militem cui anguis inſigne clypei erat, incidit, ac obtruncatus fuit. Quanquam putem ego (pace magni iſtius Philoſophi, & Hiſtorici tamen) monuiſſe Deum ut Æacidæ vitaret, quod commune nomen & clypei & ſerpentis eſt; ita oraculo illi æquivocatio ſua conſtat. Heinſius *in Crepundiis. Vide* Val. Maximum, *l.* 1. *c.* 8. *de* Daphida & Philippo Macedone.

Promisit verace tibi Druis hospita voce
Imperium, fuerit cum tibi cæsus Aper.
Boissardi *Distich. in Iconas, l. 1. p. 30.*

Diocletian was a man greatly esteemed, but thus conditioned; for he was the first that wore cloath of gold, trod on silk and purple embellished with pearls; which, though it were more than did become him, and argued in him a lofty and proud spirit; yet this was nothing in respect of his other carriage: for (next after *Caligula* and *Domitian*) he was the first, who allowed himself to be called Lord and God, and would be sued unto as a god, though (saith *Aur. Victor*) he carried himself liker a Father, than a Tyrant.

Diocletianus, aurei parens sæculi, & Maximianus (ut vulgo dicitur) ferrei. Lampridius *in fine Helagabali.*

Sibi immani sævitia, qua religionis odio in omne Christianum nomen est grassatus, æternas infamiæ notas, ceteroqui non pessimus Princeps inussit. M. Velserus *Rerum Aug. Vind.* l. 6. p. 136, 137.

It was a good speech of him though an evil Emperor, "That the best and most "wary Prince may be abused by bad ser-"vants. *Vopiscus in Aureliano.*

Ut maximè infame Diocletiani Imperium fuerit, ob excitatam & exercitam sævissimam in Christianos persecutionem, & privata insuper vitia nonnulla; attamen & alias laudatissimum Principem fuisse, & constitutiones de jure nobilissimas & æquissimas promulgasse constat, & quidem ex veteri Jurisprudentia passim petitas, & ad ejus normam compositas. Gothofredus *in secunda dissertatione juridica*, p. 39.

Not

Notwithstanding his cruelty condemned even by *Libanius* a Heathen (in his Oration to *Theodosius* the Great) yet he counterfeited *Clemency*, and in appearance had the memory of *Marcus Aurel.* in great veneration, as a God, saying often, that he desired to resemble him in humanity. *Capitolinus in Marco Antonino Philosopho.*

Rescriptum Diocletiani & Maximiani, l. 6. C. de. Patr. potest. Abdicatio, quæ Græco more ad alienandos liberos usurpatur (f. usurpabatur) & ἀποχήρυξις dicebatur, Romanis legibus non comprobatur. Rittershusius *in Salvianum, p.* 499.

Diocletianus, si quisquam alius Principum, præcipuam Testamentorum rationem habuit, enixeque testantium utilitati consultum ivit. Jac. Gothofredus *in secunda dissertatione Juridica, p.* 40.

Diocletian by his * profound wisdom wherewith he was endued, found out a more assured way to secure himself against rebellions, than others had discovered: for having taken *Maximian* for his Companion and Allie: and afterwards created *Galerius* and *Constantius Cesars*, he rendred himself formidable to those who desired to make themselves Emperors. For in what part soever the rebels rose, one of these four was upon their backs, *alius hic, alius ibi, vel alibi.* Olaus Magnus, *fol.* 675, 676.

* *Prudentia illa Diocletiani. (quæ Christi nomen insolentissimè contemnebat, & se pro Deo adorari jubebat) prohibere nequivit, quin ubique terrarum plures uno tempore rebellarent*

and ſtifled them in the birth. Only * *Carauſius*, whom the ſituation of great *Britain* rendred invincible, ſtood out 7 years. But all the other who had the boldneſs to make themſelves Emperors, as *Aulus Pomponius Ælianus*, *Amandus*, *Julianus*, &c. were quickly defeated before they could make any conſiderable progreſs. *Triſtan.*

Diocletianus poſt ſegetem tyrannorum Maximianum Cæſarem & collegam fecit. Chr. Schotani *Heptaemeron*, *p.* 215.

Theſe 2 Emperors choſe 2* *Cæſars*; *Diocletian* choſe *Galerius* ſurnamed *Armentarius*, and *Maximian*, *Conſtantius Chlorus*; enforcing them to put away their wives, and take their Daughters for an aſſurance of love by the bonds of that alliance. *Aur. Victor.*

Whereas *Eutropius* calleth the marriage of *Conſtantius Chlorus* with *Helena*, *obſcurius matrimonium*, a more obſcure marriage, his meaning is plain. For he neither meant, nor ſaid that it was ſimply ignoble, but ſpeaking comparatively, and comparing it to his ſecond marriage with *Theodora* the daughter-in-law to the Emperor; by which he obtained firſt to be *Ceſar* & then Emperor: in reſpect of the ſplendor of this ſecond marriage, and the Imperial dignity obtained thereby, he did and might well ſay, that the former was more obſcure, or not ſo illuſtrious; though in it ſelf it was both very honourable, and in no ſort any diſparagement to *Conſtantius.*

* For ſubduing of whom *Conſtantius* is compared to *Pompey* the Great, by Dr. *Rives* in his *Hiſtoria Navalis Media*, *l.* 2. *p.* 96, 97.

* *Ceterum, ut inquit Ammianus, hi Cæſares ipſis Auguſtis tanquam apparitores obtemperarunt, ultro citroque pro eorum arbitrio commeantes.* Sigonius *de Occid. Imperio*, *l.* 1.

Pauca ſuperſunt nobis hodie geſta Diocletiani, penuria auctorum. Ex iis qui ſuperſunt, nullus plura de eo paucioribus verbis complexus eſt, quam Eutropius. Scaliger *in Euſebium*, p. 244.

tius. Dr. *Crakanthorp's* Defence of *Conſtantine.* ch. 10.

In the 19. year of his reign he raiſed the 10. and extremeſt perſecution, wherein 17000 men, women and children were martyred within one month, beſides infinite numbers otherwiſe puniſhed: the Chriſtians torments laſting 10 years without intermiſſion, no place being free.

Quæ perſecutio omnibus ferè anteactis diuturnior atque immanior fuit. Nam per decem annos incendiis Eccleſiarum, proſcriptionibus innocentum, cædibus martyrum inceſſabiliter acta eſt. Sequitur terræ motus in Syria, ex quo apud Tyrum & Sidonem paſſim labentibus tectis, multa hominum millia proſtrata ſunt. P. Oroſius, *l.* 7. *c.* 25.

Euſebius l. 5. *de prep. Evang.* writeth that *Diocletian* going to *Apollo* for an Oracle, received anſwer, "That the juſt men "were the cauſe that he could ſay no-"thing. Which juſt men, *Apollo's* Prieſts interpreted to be Chriſtians, whereupon *Diocletian* began his moſt fierce and cruel perſecution. *Bayfield* of the Trinity, ch. 2. p. 51.

Infinite multitudes were every where impriſoned, and the Priſons of old appointed for murderers and riflers of graves, were then filled with Biſhops, Miniſters, Deacons, Readers and Exorciſts, ſo that there was no room in them for hainous offenders. *Euſebius* in his Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory, *l.* 8. *c.* 6.

Nullus dies cui non ultra quinque millium numerum Martyrum reperiri poſſet aſcriptus, excepto die Calendarum Januarii. There was never a day in the year, except the firſt of *January* (on which they uſed not to ſhed blood) whereto the number of 5000 Martyrs at the leaſt might not be a-

Heylin's Geography.

* *Si tamen illa ſit Hieronymi epiſtola*, ſaith Dr. *Hakewil* in his *Scutum regium*, *p.* 74

ſcribed ſaith *Hierome* in * his Epiſtle *ad Heliodorum & Chromatium.*

Nicomedia was honoured with the ſeat and reſidence of many of the *Roman* Emperors, when their affairs called them into the Eaſt, before the building of *Conſtantinople*; on that occaſion made the Throne on which many of God's Saints received the Crown of Martyrdom, eſpecially in the perſecution under *Diocletian.* Dr. *Heylin's* Geography.

Cyprian a Magician, converted at *Nicomedia* by *Juſtina* a Chriſtian Virgin, ſuffered under *Diocletian. Velſerus Rerum Boicarum, l.* 3.

Quis non horreat in una Ægypto 144 *millia mortalium cæſa*, 700 *millia in exilium acta; præter Africam totamque Europam in carnificinam verſas? ut totum orcum dicas in orbem effuſum, ubi nemo niſi tortus vel tortor ſit. Triumphavit tamen iis cladibus Chriſti Eccleſia, & ſcoria per ignem purgata longè illuſtrior, damnis ſuis ferax, miſeriis fœlix, ruinis erecta, jacturis dives, rediviva in morte, mortalium victrix & Dæmonum, ſementem fecit effuſo ſanguine, profligatura ſtatim Imperium, & Orbem totum miſſura ſub jugum.* Buſſieres *in Floſculis Hiſtoricis.*

Vide Hottingerum *Hiſt. Eccleſiaſt. parte prima, p.* 182.

Evectus ad imperii culmen Diocletianus, cum inter cæteras provincias bello ſubactas, Ægyptus maximè Achilla duce rebellaſſet, ex indignatione ſumma, ob contumeliam, ut ipſe putabat, ſibi à Refractariis illis illatam; in furorem verſus, mox ea expugnata non ſatis eſſe

esse ratus est, Achillam jam in potestatem suam redactum, feris dilaniandum objicere: sed vindictam quoque omni crudelitatis genere refertam, sibi exercendam existimans, in cujuscunque conditionis homines fœdum in modum debacchatus est. Verum inter alia, tria potissimum quæ persecutionem vehementer auxere, contra eos machinatus est. Primum fuit, ut omnes cum aliorum, tum Christianorum libros sacros hinc inde per universam Ægyptum collectos, aboleret; his enim ablatis, ad Romanorum ritus facilius eos allectum iri confidebat. Alterum erat, ut artem transmutationis metallorum interdiceret; timebat enim, ne inde locupletiores facti Ægyptii, collectoque exercitu multum Romanis in posterum fortassis facesserent negotii. Tertium denique erat, ut computus anni Ægyptiis usitatam rationem, Romano stylo accommodaret. Duo prima, etsi multum in eis desudaverit, assequi nunquam potuit; hoc uti voluit, ita & perfecit. Kircherus *in Prodromi Coptici, c. 2. p. 21, 22.*

Divine mercy herein magnified it self toward this Island, that the last *Oecumenical* was the first *Provincial* Persecution in *Britain*. Dr. *Fuller*'s Church-History of *Britain*, p. 17.

The persecution of *Diocletian* in *Britain*, continued only one year, saith Mr. *Ball* against *Can*, c. 2. p. 62.

Magnum Christianorum numerum, quod Amphibalum prædicantem audivisset, Johannes Rossus Warwicensis (in libro de Wi-

gornienſibus Epiſcopis) impiorum telis occubuiſſe narrat, in loco qui ab eventu Lichfield, *id eſt,* Cadaverum Campus *appellatur. Qua vocis etymologia nixi Lichfeldenſes, pro civitatis ſuæ inſignibus Campum occiſorum cadaveribus conſtratum etiam nunc uſurpant. Nec deſunt qui mille & ducentorum monachorum Bangorenſium cædem ab Ethelfrido Northanhumbrorum rege factam eo trahant: ſed contra Hiſtoriæ fidem, quæ non juxta Lichfeldiam, ſed prope Urbem Legionum, quæ hodie Occidentalis vocatur Ceſtria, interemptos illos fuiſſe confirmat.* Uſſerius *De Britannicarum Eccleſiarum Primordiis, p.* 161.

In the ſaid Britiſh Churches Antiquities, p. 145, 167, 170, *&c.* he ſaith this perſecution laſted but little above a year in *France*, imputing the ſhortneſs thereof to *Conſtantius* his * moderation.

* *Calviſius* in the *quarto* edition of his Chronology, p. 555. gives the ſame reaſon why *Germany* then eſcaped perſecution.

Hujus perſecutionis non minima laus debetur Hiſpaniæ, atque haud ſcio, an ulla tunc provincia plus effuderit ſanguinis pro fide & nomine Chriſti. Sola Cæſar-Auguſta, ni fallor, poteſt hac parte contendere cum quavis non dico civitate, ſed provincia, ut eleganter teſtatur Prudentius in hymno de octodecim martyribus Cæſar-Auguſtanis. Vaſæi *Chronicon Hiſpaniæ, p.* 272.

Cum non ſine ſtupore Diocletiani Thermas perluſtrare poſſis, quarum vaſtitatem & ſumptuoſitatem vix unquam ſatis admiraberis, ſcias, in illis olim conſtruendis quadringenta Chriſtianorum millia, per annos quatuordecim,

decim, ſervili more, ſub crudeliſſimo perſecutore vexata eſſe. Joh. Jac. Graſſeri *Itinerarium, p.* 228.

Saint *Macra* ſuffered in *Diocletian*'s perſecution (by command of *Rictiovarus*) whoſe paſſion *Ondart* thus expreſſeth in his Eccleſiaſtical *Ephemerides.*

Rictius injecit te præſes Varus in ignem,
Præciditque ferox ubera Macra tibi.
Attamen haud quidquam flammæ nocuere rogales,
Uber utrumque loco reſtituitque Deus.
Quod notum Rhemis; quorum tegeris ſolo, acuta
In teſta oranti poſtquam ibi obiſſe datum.

Uſſerius *in Addendis ad Britannicarum Eccleſiarum primordia, p.* 1040.

Geneſius being the chief of the Theatrical *Mimi*, at the command of *Diocletian*, acted a play of the Chriſtian religion before the Emperor, in deriſion of the Chriſtian Faith and Myſteries. To expreſs the cuſtom of Chriſtians, he was laid as one *Clinicus*, on his couch upon the Theatre, then he called for baptiſm; the mimical *Presbyter* being brought, asked him if he did believe? who anſwering he did, he was mimically baptized: then apparelled in white, and for making that profeſſion, he was in mimical faſhion led to be executed. But this play was then turned into ſad earneſt, for at that time he being truly converted to Chriſtianity, inſtead of curſing and deriding, began to bleſs and adore

Geneſius *Abbas Arelatens. per jocum baptiſatus, & ſerio converſus.* 289. Oreus *in Nomenclatore Præcipuorum D D.*

dore Chriſt, and ſeriouſly exhorted the Emperor, and all in the Theatre, to embrace the holy Chriſtian Faith, as himſelf did: at which the Emperor being incenſed with rage, commanded him to be moſt cruelly tormented; and when by no torments whatſoever, he could be driven from the conſtant profeſſion of Chriſt, he was at laſt beheaded, and is now enrolled among the bleſſed Saints and Martyrs. Dr. *Crakanthorp*'s defence of *Conſtantine*, c. 6. p 84. out of *Martyrologium Rom. & Mart. Uſuardi.*

S. Helychius, ſub Diocletiano cum eſſet, & præceptum audiſſet, ut quiſquis non ſacrificaret idolis, cingulum ſolveret, repente cingulum ſolvit. Ob hanc cauſſam Imp. colobio muliebri indutum primo eum in gynæceum dedit. Savaro in Epiſt. S. Sidonii l. 1. Pontanus *Attic. Bellariorum parte ſecunda, p.* 300.

Diocletianus edictum eum Maximiano proponit, ne cui vendere aut emere, aut molere, aut aquas haurire liceret, niſi ſtatuis thura incenderet. Baronius cited by *Calviſius* in the *quarto* edition of his Chronology, *p.* 551.

Diocletiano & Maximiano imperantibus, acerbiſſima perſecutio exorta, quæ per decem continuos annos plebem Dei depopulata eſt, qua tempeſtate omnis ferè ſacro martyrum cruore orbis infectus eſt: quippe certatim glorioſa in certamina ruebatur, multoque avidius tum martyria glorioſis mortibus quærebantur, quàm nunc Epiſcopatus pravis ambitionibus

bitionibus appetuntur. Nullis unquam bellis mundus magis exhauſtus eſt, neque unquam majore triumpho vicimus, quàm cum decem annorum ſtragibus vinci non potuimus. Sulpitius Severus *Sacr. Hiſt. l.* 2.

There was a Column (as a Trophy of extinguiſhing the Chriſtian Faith) erected to him with this Inſcription.

Diocletiano Cæſ. Aug.
Galerio in Oriente
Adopt.
Superſtitione Chriſti ubique deleta,
Et cultu Deorum ubiq; propagato.

Nomine Chriſtianorum deleto, Qui Remp. evertebant.

Gruter's *Inſcriptions, p.* 280

In another Inſcription mentioned by *Baronius anno* 304.

Maximian at *Octodurum* commandeth the Army to ſacrifice to falſe gods; the *Theban* Legion conſiſting of 6666 Chriſtians remove their quarters to *Agaunum*, to avoid (if poſſible) occaſion of diſcontenting the Emperor; who ſummoneth them to perform their parts in this deviliſh worſhip: they return an humble denial, with their reſolve not to diſobey God, for whoſe ſake they would ever continue faithful to him. He unſatisfied with this anſwer, putteth them to a *decimation*; to which they ſubmit with cheerfulneſs, praying for their murderer. His commands are renewed, but prevail not on the remainder, who are butchered without reſiſtance, there being no delay in their death, except from the wearineſs of their Executioners. *Mauricius* their Colonel

Colonel could not contain his joy, when he ſaw the firſt *decimation* gallantly ſuffered. "How fearful was I, ſaid he to his awhile ſurviving Soldiers (for armed men may be attempted to defend themſelves) "leſt any of them might upon "colour of juſt reſiſtance for ſelf-preſer-"vation in an innocent cauſe have ſtrug-"led againſt this bleſſed ſlaughter! I was "watchful and had Chriſts example in "readineſs, who commanded his Diſ-"ciple to put his Sword into his ſcab-"bard. *Salus veſtra non periclitabitur, niſi armis veſtris.* Deſpair it ſelf could not conquer one ſingle patience, which yet createth valour in cowards, and maketh them more couragious in ſuch extremities, becauſe they are fearful; ſince they are like to do moſt to preſerve life, who are moſt afraid of death. *Eucherius Lugdunenſis.*

Maximianus adhuc graſſatur in milites ſed non cæde, ut hactenus fecerat, cum nihil proficeret; ſed damnat eos ad labores ſerviles, ad ædificandas thermas Romanas & Carthaginenſes. *Euſebius* cited in the *quarto* edition of *Galviſius*'s Chronology, *p.* 554.

Zonaras, Nicephorus Calliſt. Th. Metochita, &c. but neither *Triſtan*, nor *Chr. Matthias* hold this to be the ſole, or chief cauſe of his reſignation.

This moſt bloody perſecutor *Diocletian*, at laſt perſwaded *Maximian* to lay aſide with him all government (not becauſe he was weary of perſecuting, but of *diſappointment) ſince he could not hatch his long brooded deſigns for the utter extirpation of the Chriſtians; being

ing thus out of hope to do all the miſchief he intended, by reſigning the Empire, he putteth himſelf out of power to do any.

Both of them on one day changed their Imperial eſtate, returning to a private condition, *Diocletian* at *Nicomedia*, and *Maximianus Herculius* at *Milain*; ſo ſoon as they had finiſhed the triumphs kept at *Rome* with great ſolemnity of Pageants: in which the Concubines, Siſters, and Children of *Narſeus* were led before their Chariots. This triumph being ended, one of them went to *Salona*, and the other into *Lucania*. Eutropius, *l.* 9.

De hoc Diocletiani ac Maximiani Auguſtorum triumpho multa Pomponius Lætus, ut nullus ethnicus copioſius. Glareanus *in Eutropium*, p. 246.

Euſebius l. 8. *c.* 13. imputeth *Diocletian* his reſignation to phrenſy.

Equidem facilè crediderim, Diocletianum poſt cœptam perſecutionem morbo correptum, de ſtatu mentis aliquantiſper deturbatum fuiſſe; maximè cum Conſtantinus & Euſebius id conſtanter affirment. Hoc enim evenire ſolet ægrotantibus, & præcipue melancholicis, cujuſmodi Diocletianum fuiſſe ex nummis conjicere licet. Sed nego illum ob hanc cauſam imperium poſuiſſe. Valeſius *in Euſebium*, p. 270.

Being ſollicited 4 years after by *Maximianus Herculius* and *Galerius* to reſume his

Nova certe, quæcunque ea fuerint, in eo hæc duo contigerunt, quod primus ut oratores dixerunt, Imperium & communicavit, & poſuit. Sigonius *de Occidentali imperio, l.* 1. *Quanquam aliis alia æſtimantibus veri gratia corrupta ſit; nobis tamen excellenti natura videtur ad communem vitam ſpreto ambitu deſcendiſſe.* Aurelius Victor.

his charge, he anſwered; "Did you ſee "the herbs ſet with my own hands in my "Garden at *Salona*, you would think me "too good a Gardiner to become a miſe-"rable Emperor.

O thou great Monarch, and more great therefore,
For ſcorning that whereto vain pride aſpires,
Reckoning thy Gardens in Illyria *more*
Than all the Empire; took'ſt thoſe ſweet retires:
Thou well didſt teach, that O he is not poor
That little hath, but he that much deſires:
Finding more true delight in that ſmall ground,
Than in poſſeſſing all the earth was found.
Daniel *of the Civil Wars between the houſes of* York *and* Lancaſter, *l.* 3.

Diocletian being invited by *Conſtantine* the Great and *Licinius* to their marriage feaſt, excuſed himſelf, that by reaſon of his age he could not come; upon which they wrote back a threatning Letter, wherein he was charged with inclining to *Maximinus*, and aſſiſting of *Maxentius*: whereupon fearing ſome ſhameful death, he poyſoned himſelf. *S. Aur. Victor.*

Euſebius de vita Conſtant. l. 5. ſaith *Diocletian*'s houſe was wholy conſumed with lightning, and that he hiding himſelf for fear thereof, died within a little after.

He was deified, though a private perſon when he dyed; an honour that had not been conferred on any before. *Eutropius*, l. 9. c. *ult. Quem honorem ab Auguſtis*

guſtis admiratione virtutis accepit, ſaith *Sigonius de Occid. Imp. l.* 3.

Euſebius reports that *Arnobius* then a Teacher of Rhetorick and a Gentile, was conſtrained by ſundry dreams to believe the glorious Goſpel, yet the Chriſtian Biſhops would not receive him to their Fellowſhip, till he had written and publiſhed thoſe excellent books of his againſt Gentiliſm; wherein he confuted that vain ſuperſtition and Idolatry, whereof he had been before ſo great a Patron and Advocate. *Larkin*'s *Speculum Patrum*, p. 27.

Vadianus *in Epitome trium terræ partium*, makes *Hierom* the Author of this ſtory.

Herculius was openly fierce and of a rude diſpoſition, ſhewing his auſterity by the terror of his countenance; complying with *Diocletian* in all his cruel deſigns. *Eutropius*, *l.* 9.

Mamertinus non minus ad fidem, quàm ad laudem dixit, Maximianum primum omnium Imperatorùm probaſſe, Romani Imperii nullum eſſe terminum, niſi qui ſuorum eſſet armorum. Sigonius *de Occidentali Imperio*, *l.* 1.

Julian the Emperor feigneth that *Silenus* judged him not worthy to break a jeſt on, or to be admitted into the aſſembly of the Gods; from whence *Nemeſis* ſoon chaſed this exceſſively intemperate perſon: who was not only addicted to all ſorts of luſts, but alſo perfidious and factious.

Maximianus tradit faſces imperiales non Maxentio,

Maxentio, quem filium habebat, ſed (imperii caritatem paterno amori præferens) Conſtantio Chloro, privignæ ſuæ marito. Dietericus *in Breviario Hiſtorico.*

In hiſtoria rerum à Maximiano geſtarum meræ tenebræ apud ſcriptores qui nunc extant. Livineius *in Panegyrica, p.* 316.

Maximian ſeemingly taking offence at his ſon *Maxentius*, then at variance with his Son-in-law *Conſtantine* the Great, under colour of this diſlike, repaired to *Conſtantine*, who married *Fauſta* his daughter, with whom he tampered to make away her husband: but ſhe revealed his treachery to *Conſtantine*, who thereupon* put him to death.

* *Solus Zoſimus Maximianum, in deſperationem rerum omnium adductum, & apud Tarſum morbo extinctum ait, confundens Maximianum, cum Maximino.* Chr. Ad. Rupertus *in Beſoldi min. ſynop. p.* 399.

Herculius natura impotentior, ſimul filii ſegnitiæ metuens, inconſulte imperium repetiverat: cumque ſpecie officii dolis compoſitis Conſtantinum generum tentaret acerbè, jure tandem interierat. Aur. Vict.

Utinam Maximianus ſuo potius ingenio, quàm alieno exemplo faſtidiiſſet fortunæ faſtigium. Diocletianum ſecutus eſt. Sic vero animi inconſtans; quia cum ex Auguſto privatus eſſet, è privato tyrannus eſſe voluit. Nam ut ad Imperii majeſtatem eveheret Maxentium filium, acriter afflixit Rem Romanam: ut deinde evectum rejiceret, pater quoque eſſe recuſavit. Jam nec in filio Maxentio, nec in genero Conſtantino purpuram ferens, dum inſidias utrique ſtruit, interficitur. Puteanus *in Hiſtoria Inſubrica.*

Rem inſidiarum in Conſtantinum, Maſſiliæ cervicibus laqueo fractis, impietatis perpetuæ & ambitionis præpoſteræ pœnas luit. Buſſieres *in Floſculis Hiſtoriarum.*

Shrewd Diocletian *Empire got: Deſign'd*
Partners! raign'd long: then rule and wit reſign'd.
Dr. Holyday's *Survey of the world, l.* 9. *p.* 100.

Conſtantius

Conſtantius Chlorus, and *Galerius Armentarius*, } Colleagues.
To whom are joined
SEVERUS,
MAXIMINUS,
MAXENTIUS,
LICINIUS.

Sequentium Imp. uſque ad filios Conſtantini, hiſtoria valde perturbata eſt, ob concurſum multorum Cæſarum. Helvici *Theatrum Hiſtoricum*, p. 94.

WHen *Diocletian* and *Maximian* laid down the Enſigns of command; *Conſtantius Chlorus* was choſen Emperor in theſe Weſtern Provinces of *France*, *Spain*, and *Britain*: un-

Etſi Diocletianus & Maximianus imperium ejurarant, etenim graviſſima premebatur perſecutione Eccleſia Dei. In Oriente Galerius quoniam mirè ſuperſtitioſus erat, in Africa Maximinus, in Occidente & præcipue Romæ Maxentius truculenter graſſabantur. Jo. Lætus *in Compend. Hiſt. Univ.*

to *Galerius* his government fell *Egypt* and the Provinces in *Aſia*.

Alter natus eſt, qui acceptam ignominiam Valeriani captivitate deleret: alter qui Gallias Romanis legibus redderet. Vopiſcus *in Carino, c.* 18.

Conſtantius was not only beloved, but had in great revèrence of the *French*, chiefly becauſe by his accepting of the Empire they eſcaped the ſuſpected wiſdom of *Diocletian*, and the bloudy raſhneſs of *Maximian*. Eutropius, l. 10.

Galerius took for eaſe of his burden *Severus*, and *Maximinus* ſurnamed *Daza*, his ſiſters Son, whom he elected *Cæſars* and after *Auguſti*.

Conſtantius (who choſe rather to govern well than much) gave up *Africk* and *Italy* to *Galerius*, as too remote from the ſeat of his reſidence, and eie of his direction.

Conſtantius homo frugi quum eſſet, ne plus agri poſſideret, quàm colere poſſet, Italiam & Africam depoſuit. Rivii *Hiſtoria Navalis Media, l. 2. p. 98.*

Conſtantius & Galerius Imperium, quod commune Diocletianus & Maximianus habuerant, novo, ut Oroſius dixit, exemplo inter ſe diviſerunt. Sigonius *de Occidentali Imperio, l. 2.*

Conſtantius was by birth a *Roman*; his Father was named *Eutropius*, his Mother *Claudia*, Neece to the Emperor *Claudius Gothicus*.

Triſtan

Triſtan thinketh that *Conſtantius* was not called *Chlorus* from his *Paleneſs*, ſince *Eumenius* attributeth to him a very *ſanguine* complexion; but from ſome *green* garments which he wore when he was young: and he mentioneth others who had the ſame ſurname.

Carus intending to kill his Son *Carinus* for his wickedneſs, determined to ſubſtitute in his place *Conſtantius* (then Preſident of *Dalmatia*, but afterwards Emperor) becauſe none ſeemed more deſerving than he. *Vopiſcus in Carino*, c. 17.

He was very affable, reigned to enrich his ſubjects, ſaying; "It was fitter that "the wealth of the Land ſhould be di- "ſperſed into the Commons hands, than "locked up in Princes Coffers: concur- ring with * *Trajan*, who compared the Exchecquer to the Spleen, by the growth whereof the limbs are leſſened. *Eutropius, l. 10*

[Howſoever this compariſon hath been applauded; (neither do I think it ſimply to be condemned, ſpecially for ſome States, and ſome comings-in) yet I do not think it to be fit generally. In my judgment the Exchecquer may fitly be compared to the ſtomach; for as if the *Ventricle* be not plied with neceſſary meats and drinks, the *Meſaraic* veins ſucking continually from it and the bow-

* *Elizabetha Regina non tantum non urſit ſubditos in- dictionibus, ſed etiam tributa, quæ tertio quo- que anno exigi conſueverant, ſuſtulit, imo cum regni or- dines aliqua- do magnam pe- cuniæ ſummam pro ſumptibus Reipublicæ ne- ceſſariis offer- rent, illa magnam partem recuſavit, ac populo gratias egit; dictitans pecuniam in ſubditorum arculis eſſe perinde ac in ſuis.* Lanſius in Oratione pro Britannia.

els, and the Liver continually sucking from the *Mesaraics*, and the *Capillar* or small veins (dispersed over the body) sucking from the Liver; there must needs ensue first a hungriness, secondly, a faintness, thirdly, in time a wast, and lastly, an untimely death: so if the Treasury should not have as great supplies, as it hath evacuations, if it should not have as well *Oesophagum* to bring in, as *Pylorum* to send forth, and *venam portam*, as well as *cavam*, it cannot be but the whole Estate will be greatly enfeebled, that I do not say endangered. Bishop *Smith*'s Sermons, p. 221, 222.]

Eusebius *de vita Constantini*, l. 1. c. 10

Being but nominated for the Empire, and reproached for his poverty by *Diocletian*, who sent to exhort him to heap up treasures; he advertised the people of his want, who vehemently contended among themselves to fill his Exchequer, rejoicing greatly, that now they had that long wished for opportunity to witness their benevolous minds unto the Emperor: whereupon he truly and excellently said; "That the love of the people is the "richest and safest Treasury of the "Prince. Shewing to *Diocletian*'s Embassadors the great sums which he had ammassed in few hours, they were amazed thereat; after whose departure he returned all the Subsidy that was presented to him; by which custome he rather got the Epithet of *poor*, than was so indeed; being

Constantius *Pauper*. See Suidas *in* πᾶυπερ.

being by this *voluntary* poverty, richer than *Diocletian* himſelf, yea than all the other Princes together who were partners with him.

And as this one action ſhewed his royal magnificence, ſo this other declareth his piety; in both which he was exemplary. To try the hearts of the Courtiers, he proclaimed, that all they who would not forſake the worſhip of the true God, ſhould be baniſhed the Court, and ſhould have heavy penalties and fines laid upon them; preſently upon this (ſaid the ſtory) all who were baſe and came to ſerve him only for ends, went away, forſook the true God, and worſhiped Idols: by which means he found out who were the true ſervants of God, and whom he intended to make his own; for he conſidered that they who deſerted God for fear, would not ſtick to betray their Prince for gain, ſaith Dr. *Cheynel* in his Epiſtle Dedicatory, before his Book againſt *Socinianiſm*.

Fighting in *France*, he had the ſame day both adverſe and proſperous fortune. For being aſſaulted on the ſudden, he was forced to retire to *Langres* in ſuch haſt, that the Gates of the City being ſhut, he was fain to be drawn up the wall by Ropes. Yet within five hours ſpace, his Army approaching, he ſlew almoſt 60000 *Almains*. *Eutropius* lib. 9.

Ea victoria maximam ei, ſi qua alia, in re militari gloriam peperit. Sigonius *de Occid. Imp. lib.* 1.

Mirum vero Eumenium verba habentem ad Conſtantium tam inſignem Victoriam obiter perſtrinxiſſe, hominem alioqui laudum Conſtantii prodigum. Quum toties, inquit, pro culcata eſſet Alemannia. Scaliger *in Euſebium p.* 244.

Euſebius ſaith that *Conſtantius* preſerved (θεοσεβεῖς ἀλαζεῖς) ſuch Chriſtians as were under his command from harm.

Camden his *Brit.* in deſcription of *York.*

Under him the Church in theſe parts had a breathing-time from perſecution. But I am afraid that that learned Pen goes a little too far, who makes him founder of a Biſhoprick at *York*, and ſtileth him "an Emperor ſurpaſſing in all ver-"tue, and Chriſtian piety. Dr. *Fuller* in his Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory of *Brittain.*

Nullo modo Jacobus Philippus Bergomenſis *audiendus eſt, qui Conſtantium repudiata Theodora* Helenam, Anglorum regis filiam captivam, uxorem duxiſſe *fabulatur: cum ex Romanorum annalibus certo conſtat, Helenam illum coactum repudiaſſe, ut Theodoram* Maximiani *Auguſti privignam conjugem acciperet.* Uſſerius *in Antiquitat. Britann.*

He married *Helena* (daughter of *Coilus*, who entertained him when he was Lieutenant of *Britan*) but *Maximian* tyranniſing aſwel over loves, as men, declareth *Conſtantius* Ceſar, on condition he would forſake *Helen*, and marry *Theodora* his danghter-in-law. He was won by ambition, and eaſineſs of his nature (which bowed to thoſe who ſeemed to wiſh him well) and by the luſtre of the purple preſented to him.

He married *Theodora*; which alteration

Helena

Helena bore with great conſtancy, counting it an honour, that to refuſe her no other cauſe was found, but the good fortune of her husband; *Conſtantius* lived in body with *Theodora*, and in heart with *Helen*: the torrent of ambition and affairs of the world having parted their bodies could not hinder the inclinations of their hearts. For *Conſtantius* returning to *Britain*, dyed in *York*; and being asked on his death-bed which of his children ſhould ſucceed him, ſince beſides *Conſtantine* he had two ſons by *Theodora viz. Conſtantius* and *Annibalius*: he then forgetting his ſecond wife and her offſpring, cryed aloud *Conſtantinum pium*, he would have no other ſucceſſor than the pious *Conſtantine*, which was approved by the Army: who caſt the purple Robe upon *Conſtantine* at *York*, whileſt he wept, and put ſpurs to his horſe, that he might avoid the importunity of the Soldiers, who attempted and required ſo inſtantly to make him Emperor: but the happineſs of the ſtate overcame his modeſty.

Scribit quidam Græcus Conſtantium *ex novacula cum eſſet moriturus, ſeque de lecto protenderet, ut ambabus manibus filium Conſtantinum, qui jam concito gradu advenerat, amplecteretur, dxiiſſe Mortem eſſe immortalitate meliorem.* Cuſpinianus *in* Cæſaribus.

Conſtantius lived 56 years; was Cæſar 16 years, and Emperor 2, ſaith *Euſebius*.

Cambden reporteth that at the demolition of Monaſteries, there was found in his ſuppoſed monument in *York-ſhire*, a burning lamp, thought to have burnt there ever ſince his burial, above 300 years

after Chriſt, and he addeth out of *Lazius* that the ancient Romans uſed in that manner to preſerve lights in Sepulchers a long time, by the oylineſs of Gold, reſolved into liquid ſubſtance.

Omnibus virtutibus inſignem paſſim deprædicant Scriptores. Rupertus *p.* 402.

Fictilibus mihi poſſe uti moderatio ſuaſit;
Pauperies priſcos dura coegit avos.
Hoc mea laus major; quod cum mihi cuncta licerent,
Quam minimum volui collubuiſſe tamen.
Anonymus.

Vere Armentarius, & quaſi regeret tauros non homines, ſtoliditate forti conſpicuus. Buſbieres *in Floſculis Hiſtoriarum.*

Galerius born of mean parents (ſurnamed *Armentarius*, becauſe he kept cattle) bragged that a Serpent begat him, as one did *Alexander* the Great. *Moribus certe odioque in Chriſtianos Draco fuit, nec indignus eo, quo ſe natum parente fatebatur.* Jo. Cluverus in *Hiſt. Epit.*

Having ſucceſfully fought againſt the Perſians, and being emboldned therewith, he again encountred them between *Callinicum* and *Charræ*; a City famous for the ſlaughter of *Craſſus* the Roman General. Where more reſolutely than adviſedly engaging a few againſt multitudes of his Enemies, he was overthrown, and loſing moſt of his Army, eſcaped by flight. Whereupon he returned to *Diocletian* for aid, whom he met by chance in the way. *Diocletian* was ſo diſpleaſed with him for this diſaſter, that he ſuffered him to go ſome miles on foot by his Chariot, though clad in purple; for he was then *Ceſar*. At length

length he permitted him to depart for the recruiting of his forces, to recover his honour. *Galerius* levyeth an Army in *Sclavonia* and *Myſia*, fought again with *Narſeus* in the greater *Armenia*, with very good ſucceſs, and no leſs circumpection and courage; for truſting not Scouts, he went himſelf with two Horſemen to view the adverſe Camp: Which when he had fully obſerved, he aſſaulted them unawares in the night with 25000 men, diſcomfited *Narſeus*, plundred his Tents, took his Wives, Siſters and Children priſoners, with many Nobles of *Perſia*; forcing the King to fly to the uttermoſt deſert places of his Kingdom. Returning to *Diocletian*, then in *Meſopotamia*, with ſo rich ſpoils of the *Perſian* treaſure, he was received very honourably by him.

When he rifled the camp of *Narſeus* King of *Perſia*, a common Soldier having met with a *Parthick* ſatchel, wherein were pearls, through ſimplicity threw out the gems, and went away contented with the beauty only of the leather bag. *Amm. Marcellinus* l. 22. c. 3. *Vide* Piccarti *Obſervationes Hiſtoric-politicas, Dec.* 3. c. 3.

He made *Conſtantine* the Great (who was his hoſtage) General of an Army which he ſent againſt the *Sarmatians*, (a very furious people); ſuppoſing *Conſtan-*

Hæc proſperè pro republica geſta imperium principum iſtorum valde commendant; Amm. ſed iidem immani in Chriſtianos ſævitia id meruere, ut hodie utriuſque nomen, velut deteſtabile, abominemur; utque nec benefactis quidem gratia ſit, ſi quæ in republicam unquam contulerunt, ut Brunnerus *lib. Annal. Boic.* 6. p. 445. *loquitur.* C. A. Rupertus *in ſynopſin Beſoldi. p.* 397.

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tine ſhould there loſe his life. The young Prince (who ſhut up his eyes to danger, and only opened them to glory) went thither, and returned Victorious, leading the *Barbarian* King enchained. *Galerius* excited by a moſt ardent phrenſy, after *Conſtantine*'s return from this battel, engaged him with a Lion, purpoſely let looſe upon him; which *Conſtantine* ſlew with his own hands, and won the eſteem of the Soldiers: getting paſſage to the Throne by the ſame degrees, which were prepared for his ruine. *Zonaras* in *Conſtantio Chloro.*

He boaſted the acuteneſs of his wit by the invention of new tortures for patient Martyrs; notwithſtanding when he felt himſelf invaded with a verminous Ulcer, or *Fiſtula* in his ſecret parts, which did evaporate ſo contagious and peſtilential a ſtench, that ſome of his Phyſicians, not able to endure that *mephitis* or ſtream of intenſe corruption, fell down dead; he underſtanding this to be a judgment ſent from God to retaliate upon him thoſe tortures, which he had inflicted on many innocents; then his flinty heart melted within him, and at length he began to think of his wicked practiſes againſt the holy worſhippers of God, gave command-

Redivivum quodammodo per ſimilem morbum habemus nunc Herodem.

Ille quia Chriſtum perſequitur, pube tenus inflatus ſcatet vermibus, & iſte probroſo eodem laborat exitu, quia perſequitur Chriſtianos. Actum ſiquidem pulchro divinæ conſiderationis intuitu, ut daretur intelligi, quanta ſit capitis & membrorum connexio, quanta & quam indiviſa ſit Chriſti charitas, zelus ad Eccleſiam, dum eandem infert vindictam perſecutoribus ſuorum, quam ſui ipſius perſecutori. Haymo *Hiſt. Eccl. lib.* 8. *c.* 3.

ment

ment for cessation of the Christians persecution, confessed the equity of divine retribution, and in the midst of these confessions of his own guilt, and Gods justice, he breathed out his execrable soul from a gangrenous and loathsome body. *In supplicium persecutionis iniquissimæ ad auctorem scelerati præcepti justissima pœna redeunte.* Excerpta *Sirmondi*, p. 472.

Galerius lived not a year after his edict for the persecuting of the Christians. *Eusebius*, l. 9.

Under him *Quirinus* Bishop of *Siscia* having a hand-mil tied about his neck, was thrown headlong from a Bridge into a River, where yet he floted a great while, exhorting the lookers on, not to be dismayd with his punishment, and so with much ado was at last drowned. *Prudentius Peristeph. Hymn.* 7.

Hæc ætas Mrtyres solum, sed & Historicos & philosophos fudit. Nam Ælius Spartianus, Julius Capitolinus, Ælius Lampridius, Vulcatius Gallicanus, Trebellius Pollio, Flavius Vopiscus, e quibus pleraque Cæsarum descripsimus, historias suas Diocletiano & Constantio Augustis inscripsere. Arnobius e Philosophis Christianus, egregiè fidem tutatus, parem discipulum Lactantium tulit. Joh. Cluveri *Epitome Hist. totius Mundi, in Constantio & Maxim.*

Galerius was endued with very good qualities, and expert in Martial affairs. *Eutropius* lib. 10.

Homo gloriæ rei militaris illustris, verum sævitiæ in Christianos crudelis. Unde fœdum exitium habuisse creditus est. Pomponius Lætus *in Rom. Hist. Compendio.*

Favius

Fl. Valerius Severus and *C. Galerius Maximinus.*

Associates of

Galerius Maximianus Armentarius.

Priori Italia, posteriori quæ Jovius obtinuerat, destinantur. Victor Schotti.

MOre for cruelty againſt the Chriſtians, than for nobility of deſcent or degree of honour, this name agreed to *Severus*, his pedigree being unknown. *R. B.* in his lives of all the Roman Emperors, p. 145. *Penes autorem fides eſto.*

When *Conſtantius* deceaſed, his ſon *Conſtantine* was created Emperor in *Britain*

tain, where he became Governor in his Fathers room by the earneſt deſire of all. In the mean while the *Pretorian* Soldiers raiſing a mutiny at *Rome*, nominated *Maxentius* ſon of *Maximianus Herculius* (who dwelt in the high-way not far from the City) Emperor. At which tidings *Maximianus Herculius* hoping again to recover the Empire, which he reſigned againſt his will, haſted to *Rome* from *Lucania*; writing alſo to *Diocletian* to reſume his former power, which motion was ſlighted. *Severus Ceſar* was ſent to *Rome* by *Galerius*, with an Army to repreſs the commotion of the Guard and *Maxentius*. But as he beſieged the City, his own Soldiers treacherouſly forſook him, by means whereof *Maxentius* was fortified in the Empire. *Severus* defending himſelf in *Ravenna*, is drawn from thence by *Maximianus Herculius*, who (circumventing him with oaths) perſwaded him to go to *Rome*, whither going, he was taken and ſtrangled at the *Tres tabernæ*, by ſome whom *Maxentius* had there appointed to lie in ambuſh. *Zoſimus*, l. 2.

Maxentius Severum Ravenna evocatum perimit, tam cito nullum quam Cæſarem. Buſſieres *in Floſculis Hiſtoriarum.*

Severus his Corps was put into the Sepulchre of *Gallienus*, diſtant from *Rome* 9 miles by the *via Appia*. *Victor* in his Epitome.

Galerius incenſed with the outrage of

of *Maxentius*, intended to fall upon the Weſt, in revenge of *Severus*'s death, but was fruſtrated therein; for diſtruſting the ſafety of his Territories, he created *Licinius Ceſar*: after whoſe nomination he ſurvived not long.

Per tres tabernas, intelligimus eas quæ tribus millibus paſſuum ab Interamna fuerunt, eo loco, qui vulgo dicitur Ponteconſino. Hæc enim inter Romam & Ravennam ſitæ ſunt, ita dictæ à tribus cauponis, vel diverſoriis publicis. C. A. Rupertus *in minorem Beſoldi ſynopſin*, p. 405. concurring with *Cluverus* in his *Italia antiqua*, *l.* 3. *c.* 8.

Maximinus was the Son of the ſiſter of * *Galerius*, ſurnamed *Armentarius*. *Victor* in his Epitome, with whom *Zoſimus* (rightly interpreted by *Stephen*) concurreth.

He was *Ceſar* 4 years, and Emperor 3 in the Eaſt. *Victor*, *ubi ſupra*.

By his birth and education he was a Paſtoral man, but a great lover of wiſe and learned men; of a ‖ quiet diſpoſition, but much inclined to wine, in the exceſs whereof he commanded many things, of which he afterwards repented: giving a † charge to his followers, that they ſhould not execute his deſires, except he was ſober, or gave them a command in the morning. *Id. Ib.*

He perſecuted the Chriſtians, being inſtigated thereto by *Theotecnus*, a Conjurer of *Antioch*.

Maximinus, pernicies propemodum ultima nominis

* *Eſt hic ſolemnis ac pervulgatus error Græcorum, ut Maximianum cum Maximino permiſceant.* Valeſius *in Euſebium*, *p.* 208.

‖ Yet *Glareanus* on *Eutropius*, *p.* 248. more probably calleth him *immaniſſimam belluam*.

† This is erroneouſly aſcribed to *Galerius*, in *Sirmondus* his *Excerpta*.

nominis Chriſtiani; & dirum exitium, ſi vires animum adequaſſent, ſaith *Buſſieres in Floſculis Hiſtoriarum.*

Maximus Biſhop of *Hieruſalem* and *Paphnutius* Confeſſors were condemned by him to the *Mines*, having their right eies pulled out, and one of their ham-ſtrings cut.

Metuentes ſolitudinem urbium tyranni, contenti fuerunt oculum effodere, & crus alterum ſuffringere confeſſoribus, & metalla iis imponere erudenda. Cluveri *Epit. hiſt. univ. in Conſtantio & Maxim.*

Conſtantine the Great kiſſed the hole in *Paphnutius*'s face, out of which the Tyrant *Maximinus* had bored his eie for the profeſſion of the Faith; the good Emperor making much of the ſocket even when the candle was put out. Dr. *Fuller*'s Holy-State, l. 3. ch. 15.

Adverſus Chriſtianos Maxentius & Galerius Maximinus cætera diſcordes, inſtaurant perſecutionem, quam Euſebius vocat ſecundam, ſui videlicet ævi. Jac. Cappellus *in Cent. Hiſt. Eccl. p.* 69.

Præſides provinciarum, quaſi propoſitis præmiis nequitiæ, certabant inter ſe, ut novorum acerbitate ſupplicio-rum ſe invicem ſuperarent. Sed major erat Dei virtus in ſanctis, quam ut deleri ulla Satanæ arte aut virulentia poſſent. Cluveri *Epit. hiſt. univ. in Conſtantio & Maxim.*

The heathen Preſidents of Provinces forged certain acts of *Pilate* and our Saviour, full of blaſphemy againſt Chriſt, which by conſent of *Maximinus*, they ſend abroad throughout his Dominions; commanding by their Letters, that the ſame (both in City and Country) ſhould be expounded to the youth by School-maſters, and committed to memory inſtead of their Themes. *Euſebius* in his Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory, l. 9. c. 5.

Maximini exemplo nihilo melior factus Maximinus, perſecutionem inſtaurat, Antiochiæ Lucianum occidit, Alexandriæ Petrum Epiſcopum. Ma-

Maximini furorem castigat Deus, tum quod ab Armeniis quos lacessebat, turpiter profligatus est; tum immissa peste & fame, in qua Christianorum humanitatem tam admirabilem reddidit Deus, quam nuper constantiam in martyriis. Cappellus *in Eccles. Hist. cent. p.* 70.

In Armenia contra Parthos bellum gerens, urget in vicinis locis persecutionem, necessitate tamen coactus destitit, cum à Parthis magna clade afficeretur, & Oriens universus fame, & peste sævissimè affligeretur: fames adeo invaluit ut mensura tritici bis mille & quingentis drachmis venderetur, nostri aris ultra 350. *floren.* Calvisii *Chronologia in quarto*, p. 559.

After the death of *Galerius* and **Maxentius*, *Licinius* and *Maximinus* beheld each other with a jealous eie, and made shew of contest; but *Maximine* at *Tarsus* desided the difference by an irrevocable resignation.

* *Miror, unde in Eusebii Chronicon irrepserit adeo gravis error, ut mors Maximini ante cædem Maxentii referatur. Quod quidem Hieronymi culpa commissum videtur, quippe qui Eusebiano Chronico multa de suo addidit.* Valesius *in Euseb. p.* 189.

Maximinus edicto publico Christianos insectatus A. D. 311. *coactus est ante vertentem annum palinodiam canere, eamque duplicem, primum A. D.* 312. *tum hoc anno. Sed tam inutilis ipsi fuit adulatio, quam comminatio. Periit Tarsi molli flamma medullas exedente & corpus ejus ita mutilante, ut fieret horrendum aspectu.* Eusebius l. 9. c. 9, 10. *Ita tum exitum habuit tertia persecutio. Ab initio primæ ad exitum ultimæ sunt anni circiter decem.* Jac. Cappellus *in Eccl. Chr. Cent. tertia, ad A. D.* 313.

Peccat

Peccat Eusebius in Chronicis aliquot annorum prochroniſmo, in referenda Maximini morte, miraſque dat turbas in recenſendis illius rebus geſtis in Hiſtoria Eccleſiaſtica: quem ſecutus Baronius præter hæc peccat, quod Maximinum mortuum ſcribat anno Conſtantini Magni nono; quum tamen menſe Junio, anno Conſtantini, ut numerant, octavo, paulo antequam Tribunitiam poteſtatem octavum iniret Conſtantinus, mortuus ſit Maximinus. Petitus *in Diatriba de jure, principum edictis, &c.*

His death was after the ſame manner as his Uncles.

Ambos præter ſimilitudinem nominis, idem ferè mortis genus propemodum confundit. Petavius *de Doctrina temporum, l.* 11. *c.* 34.

Legamus Eccleſiaſticas Hiſtorias, quid Decius, quid Valerianus, quid Diocletianus, quid Maximiani duo, quid ſæviſſimus omnium Maximinus, & nuper Julianus paſſi ſunt. Et tunc rebus probabimus, etiam juxta literam prophetiæ veritatem eſſe completam. Quod computruerint carnes eorum, & oculi contabuerunt, & lingua in pedorem & ſaniem diſſoluta ſit. *Hieronymus in* 14. *c. Zachariæ.*

Prope Maximini hujus cadaver poſitum Juliani cadaver, convenienter ſcilicet, Philoſtorgii judicio, etſi caſu; velut qui inter ſe tot in rebus alioquin pariabant. Et vero ideo quoque factum videmus, ut nonnulla quæ Maximini temporibus & perſecutioni conveniunt, ab aliis Juliano tribuantur. Gothofredus *in Philoſtorgium, p.* 316.

Maxentius

WAS the Son-in-law of *Galerius Maximianus*, as appeareth from an ancient Medal mentioned by *Baronius A. D.* 306. *n.* 23. and at leaſt the reputed Son of *Maximianus Herculius.*

He was never beloved of any, neither of his own Father, nor his Father-in-law *Galerius. Victor*'s Epitome corrected by *Valeſius* in his notes on *Sirmondi Excerpta.*

He made himſelf Emperor by conſent of the Soldiers, to recompence whom he gave leave to ſin *cum privilegio*; no words being more frequent than theſe in his ſpeeches

ſpeeches to them: *Fruimini, diſſipate, prodigite.* Incerti *Paneg. Conſtantino Aug.*

Though for a while he put on a ſheeps skin, yet quickly he imitated his Father in perſecuting the Chriſtians, exceeding him in rigor.

Initio dominatus cohibita Chriſtianorum perſecutione moderationem affectaverat: ſed firmior ſibi viſus, Galerio par crudelitate, moribus etiam deterior fuit. Cluverus *in Epit. Hiſt.*

As he was cruel, ſo he was incontinent; and ſometime his luſt of incontinency prevailed againſt that of his cruelty: as inſtance is given in a Chriſtian woman, whom he attempting to defile, ſent for her by his ſervants (her husband not daring to refuſe for his life) of whom ſhe deſired time to make her ſelf ready; which having obtained ſhe goeth into her chamber and killeth her ſelf: the Officers (when they could ſtay no longer) broke open the room, and finding her dead, reportit to *Maxentius*. By which act ſaith *Euſebius*, l. 8. c. 16. ſhe proclaimed to the world, the invincibleneſs of Chriſtian chaſtity.

Lipſius in his *Monita & Exempla Politica*, and *Chriſtianus Matthias* call her *Sophronia*. *Quarles* in his *Divine Fancies*, l. 3. *Epig.* 84. compoſeth this *Epigram* on her.

The chaſt Sophronia *knows not how to ſcape*
Th' inevitable danger of a Rape;
Cruel Sophronia *draws her haſty knife,*
And would relieve her chaſtity with life;
Doubtful Sophronia *knows not what to do,*
She cannot keep the one, and t' other too;
Sophronia's *in a ſtrait; one eye is fixt*
O' th' ſeventh Commandment, t' other on the ſixt.
To what extreams is poor Sophronia *driven!*
Is not Sophronia *left at Six and Seven?*

Mille & ſexaginta annis contracta ex toto orbe divitias monſtrum illud redemptis ad civile latrocinium manibus ingeſſerat. Incerti *Paneg. Conſtantino Aug.*

By Necromancy, Adulteries and Murders *Maxentius* grew ſo intolerable, that the Senate ſent to *Conſtantine*, craving his aid againſt him.

Conſtantine drawing *Licinius* to his ſide (by marrying his ſiſter *Conſtantia* to him) haſted to *Rome* with 90000 foot and 8000 horſe, levyed out of *Britain*, *France* and *Germany*.

Maxentius framed a deceitful Bridge over *Tiber* neer *Pons Milvius*, to intrap *Conſtantine*: but being overcome in battel, he fled (through forgetfulneſs or haſt) over the ſame Bridge, which falling under him, he and many more were drowned.

Through the weight of his armour he ſunk ſo deep in the mud, that his body could hardly be found, ſaith *Sextus Aurelius Victor* in his Epitome.

Miſſum tyranni ad permulcendam Africam caput; ut quam maxime vivus afflixerat, laceratus expleret. Nazarius.

The Army of *Maxentius* was compoſed by the report of *Zoſimus*, of an hundred threeſcore and ten thouſand footmen, with eighteen thouſand horſe. All the forces *Conſtantine* could get, amounted but to ninety thouſand foot, and eight thouſand horſe by the ſame Author his computation, although others ſufficiently declare

declare the troops were far leſs. *Cauſin's* Holy-Court.

There was in the beginning a great ſlaughter of thoſe who made reſiſtance; but in the end ſeeing their Emperor drowned, they yielded all to the mercy of *Conſtantine*; who ſtayed the victorious ſword in the hands of Soldiers, to conſecrate it to clemency. *Cauſin* in his Holy-Court, part 2.

The Senate, to witneſs the joy they conceived for this victory, prepared him a triumphal Arch, all of marble, one of the ſtateliest Monuments that ever had been raiſed to the honour of a Conqueror, wherein this inſcription was engraven.

Imp. Cæſ. Fl.
Conſtantino
Maximo, P. F. Aug.
S. P. Q. R.

Quod inſtinctu divinitatis, mentis magnitudine, cum exercitu ſuo, tam de Tyranno, quam de ejus omni factione, uno tempore, juſtis Rempublicam ultus eſt armis, arcum Triumphis inſignem dicavit. Id. ibid.

In the paſſage through, on the one ſide is ingraven *Liberatori Urbis*, on the other *Fundatori Quietis*. Raymond's *Mercurio Italico*, p. 77.

Conſtantino cognomen Maximi inditum a Senatu (etſi uſus & vulgus ſcriptorum magnum eum cognominant) poſtquam Maxentium juxta pontem Milvium, prope Romam & exercitum

exercitum ejus 178 *millium, ſuperaſſet.* Elenchus MS *Numiſmatum in Bibliotheca Bodleiana.*

Conſtantine in his War againſt *Maxentius* taking *Verona*, and wanting bands for ſo many Captives as he had, cauſed the priſoners ſwords to be turned into manacles; *ut ſervarent deditos gladii ſui, quos non defenderant repugnantes.* Incertus *Paneg. Conſtantino Aug.*

Some make the victory over *Maxentius* to be the occaſion of *Conſtantine* the Great's converſion to Chriſtianity.

About noon, the day ſomewhat declining, *Conſtantine* ſaw in the sky a light-ſom pillar, in form of a Croſs, wherein theſe words were ingraven; *In this overcome.* Socrat. *Eccl. Hiſt. l.* 1. *c.* 2.

Hanc vero viſionem non Gentiles modo ſcriptores (quod Baronius recte obſervavit) nuſpiam memorant, imo ne Publius Optatianus Porphyrius quoque, qui in Dædaleo alioquin opere ſuo ſeu Panegyrico ad Conſtantinum, *multa habet de Chriſti monogrammate, quod &* Cœleſte ſignum *vocat, verum neque Euſebius ipſemet hiſtoriæ Eccleſiaſticæ libris: qui illud tantum refert, lib.* 9. *cap.* 8. *Conſtantinum ſubſidii ſibi divinitus allati conſcium, ſtatim paſſionis ſalutiferæ trophæum, ſeu crucis ſignum, Romæ dexteræ ſtatuæ ſuæ imponi voluiſſe, eum inſcriptione præferente,* ſeſe urbem Tyranni jugo liberaſſe, *&c. At de crucis viſione Conſtantino oblata nihil Euſebius libris illis.* Gothofredus *in Philoſtorgium, p.* 17.

Quam

Quam fabulam ſuſpicatos nonnullos jam olim Gelaſius Cyzicenus lib. 1. hiſtor. Concil. Nic. cap. 4. *tradit. Id. ib. p.* 18.

Quicquid mali ſexennio toto [*Maxentii*] *dominatio feralis inflixerat,* [*Conſtantini*] *bimeſtris ferè cura ſanavit.* Nazarius *in Paneg.*

Divina mens, & ipſius Urbis æterna majeſtas nefario homini eripuere conſilium, ut ex inveterato illo torpore ac fœdiſſimis latebris ſubito prorumperet, & conſumpto per deſidias ſexennio ipſum diem natalis ſui ultima ſua cæde ſignaret, ne forte ſeptenarium numerum illum ſacrum & religioſum, vel inchoando violaret. Incerti Paneg. Conſtant. Aug.

Conſtantinus primo imperium aſſumens, cæteros Aug. (Galerium & Licinium) irritare noluit, ut ita Maxentium ſe opponentem facilius ſupprimeret: Deorumq; Gentilium nominibus N N. ſuos ſignavit; uſque dum in Imperio ſtabilitus, univerſum Idolorum cultum & Templa, tuto & pacate demoliri poſſet. Elenchus *MS. Numiſmatum in Bibliotheca Bodleiana.*

Ut vexata tibi tandem ſit libera Roma,
Sub poſitis te pons Milvius abdet aquis.
Boiſſardus.

dicted to luſt, very auſtere, and exceſſively impatient, *Id. ibid.*

He was a great enemy to learning (eſpecially pleading at the Bar) calling it, through his ignorance, "A poyſon and "publick plague. *Id. ib.*

In reference to which the Emperor *Julian* (who was a great lover of learning) feigneth that he attempting to enter the banquet of the Gods, was ſtreightwayes ignominiouſly expelled by *Minos.*

When *Licinius* came into the Court of his Palace (where there was a great Bath, and ſome Vines growing about it, with the Image of *Bacchus* ſet up amongſt them) he bade *Auxentius* draw his Sword and cut off a bunch of grapes; it being done, he further commanded him to offer it at the feet of *Bacchus*, which was an acknowledging him to be a God: *Auxentius* anſwered, "I am a Chriſtian, I will not do it. "What? not upon my command, ſaid "*Licinius?* then you muſt quit your place. "With all my heart, Sir, ſaid the Chriſtian Soldier, and in token of it, put off his belt (which was as much as the giving up of his commiſſion) and went away with joy in that ſuffering for Chriſt. *Suidas* in Αυξέντιος.

Quadraginta milites Chriſt. cum inter aulicos proceres magni eſſent nominis, veritatis confeſſionem favori & gratiæ Imperatoris præpoſuerunt. Sævientis igitur Tyranni furor nudatos omnes, & ſub brumam Sebaſtiæ congelato

Licinius

WAS born in *Dacia*, known to *Galerius* by long acquaintance, and ſo eſteemed of him for his ſervice in the War againſt *Narſeus*, that he was created Emperor by him, ſaith *Eutropius* lib. 10.

He had little good in him, but that he diſliked *Eunuchs*, calling them, the Mothes and Rats of the Court. *Victor's Epitome.*

He was extremely covetous, much addicted

gelato frigore impoſitos necari juſſit. Oſiander, as I find him quoted by *Chr. Matthias* in his *Theatrum Hiſtoricum, &c.* part 2. *p.* 294.

He was well affected to Husbandry, and to Country People, being educated among ſuch; was a great obſerver of Martial diſcipline, according to the inſtitution of former Ages. *Victor's Epitome, ubi ſupra.*

Erat ingenii duri, bonarumque literarum, & Chriſtiani nominis perſecutor; quamvis interim putaretur Reipub. maximè neceſſarius, & in re militari peritiſſimus. Olaus Magnus, *fol.* 676.

Duplex fuit civile bellum inter Conſtantinum ac Licinium. Primum quo Licinius victus fuit ad Cibalim Pannoniæ, anno Chriſti 314. *cujus belli cauſas unus quod ſciam retulit auctor excerptorum de geſtis Conſtantini, quem ad calcem Amm. Marcellini jampridem edidi. Poſterius vero bellum fuit illud, quo juxta Hadrianopolim fuſus ac fugatus fuit Licinius, tandemque ad deditionem compulſus anno Chriſti* 324. *Ac prioris quidem belli mentionem nullam facit* Euſebius; *Ideo fortaſſe quod Licinius nondum adverſus Chriſtianos perſecutionem excitaſſet. Diu ſiquidem poſt prius illud bellum Licinius Chriſtianos perſequi inſtituit, anno ſcilicet* 14. *Imperii Conſtantini, ut ſequitur in Chronico* Euſebii *editionis Scaligeri ac Miræi, id eſt anno Chriſti* 320. *Idem annus habetur in Chronico* Cedreni. *At Baronius Licinium*

nium anno 319. *Perſecutionem in Chriſtianos commoviſſe ſcribit. Verum in Baronii annalibus hiſtoria utriuſque Liciniani belli admodum confuſa eſt; quæ partim ex Faſtis Idatii, partim ex geſtis Conſtantini a me olim editis reſtituenda eſt.* Certe Sozomenus *in libro.* 1. *cap.* 7. *diſerte teſtatur, Licinium poſt Cibalenſe demum bellum Chriſtianos perſequi inſtituiſſe.* Valeſius *in Euſebium, p.* 207, 208.

Edicto propoſito Epiſcopos inter ſe de more convenire, ac de rebus ad Eccleſiam pertinentibus conſultare prohibuit; alterutrum neceſſario conſecuturum arbitratus, ut aut dicto non audientes capitali ſupplicio vindicaret, aut obedientes a Chriſti veneratione averteret. Sigonius *de Occid. Imperio, lib.* 3.

He maligning *Conſtantines* fame, at laſt perſecuted the Chriſtians in the Eaſt, where he reigned with *Martinianus*, whom he before made *Ceſar* at *Byzantium*, and his own ſon *Licinius* at *Arles*.

Poteſtas orbis Romani duobus quæſita; qui quamvis per Flavii ſororem nuptam Licinio connexi inter ſe erant, ob diverſos mores tamen anxie triennium congruere quivere. Aurelius Victor.

Conſtantine warred againſt *Licinius* his collegue, not becauſe he was an Infidel, but for perſecuting the Chriſtians, contrary to their Capitulations, one Article of

of the League betwixt them, being this, to permit the Chriſtians to live in peace. *Squire* on the *Theſſalonians*, p. 426.

The reaſon why he grew ſo deſperately mad againſt the Chriſtians (whom he had formerly defended) was becauſe in their meetings they pray'd for *Conſtantine*, but not for him, as he believed; his guilt cauſing ſuſpition. *Euſebius* in his Eccleſiaſtical hiſtory, *l.* 10. *c.* 8.

In perſecutione Chriſtianorum ſuperavit omnes ferè in crudelitate, ut copioſè deſcribit Euſeb. *cap. ult. lib.* 9. *Eccleſiaſticæ hiſtoriæ. Primum enim Palatio pellit. Secundo in carceres conjecit. Tertio prohibet eis alimenta.* Glareanus *in Eutropium, p.* 253.

He was overthrown by *Conſtantine* the Great in ſeveral battels, loſing many thouſands of men, and was himſelf taken priſoner; yet by mediation of his Wife *Conſtantia*, Siſter to *Conſtantine*, had his life ſpared, and was confined within *Nicomedia*: But for his Treaſons after, he was put to death.

Conſtantinus M. *non tantum Chriſtiana fide in Galliis imbutus; atque inde moto Gallicano exercitu, teſte ejus ævi oratore, &* Zoſimo *lib.* 2. *Maxentium ſuperavit* A. D. 312 *verum & deinceps quoque robur ejus exercitus potiſſimum in millite Gallicano, etiam adverſus Licinium, extitit. Haud aliter atque Julius C. olim Romanæ monarchiæ fundamenta Galliarum præſidio jecerat.* Gothofredus *in Libanii orationem pro Templis, p.* 42.

In the Latine Chronicle of *Euſebius* there is this ſet down, that *Conſtantine* againſt right, and contrary to his oath, put *Licinius* to death at *Theſſalonica*. This is

out

out of doubt an addition thruſt in by ſome, who finding that calumny againſt *Conſtantine*, ſet down in *Zoſimus* (as it is moſt maliciouſly,) thought good to inſert it alſo into the latine Chronicle of *Euſebius*; whereas neither is it in the Greek, nor is it true that *Conſtantine* brake his oath or promiſe therein with *Licinius*: for his promiſe of life was conditional, as *Socrates* expreſly ſheweth, and *Licinius* quickly violated the condition by attempting a new rebellion. And *Euſebius* in his other books is ſo far from imputing any blame or blemiſh to *Conſtantine* touching that action, that he expreſly ſaith, *Licinius* ſuffered juſt and deſerved puniſhment, which had it been effected by the perjury of *Conſtantine* had certainly been unjuſt. *Crakanthorp*'s Defence of *Conſtantine*, p. 29, 30.

Licinius's ill ſucceſs was foretold by *Apollo* his Oracle to this effect.

Te juvenes grandæve pater, vexare feroces
Certum eſt, te infirmum manet ærumnoſa ſenectus.

Laet in his Hiſtory from Chriſt's time.

Neque illud hic omittere poſſum, quo loco Cibalis à Geographis ponitur, ibi jam in itinerario Peutingeriano poni & bis quidem, Ad labores, *proximeque ad eum locum, pontem hiulcæ, nam ita reſcribendum patet ex Zoſimo, lib. 2. & ex Victore: ut proinde locus ille,* Ad labores *idem mihi videatur cum Cibali: ita enim dictus tum videtur ob aſperimum prælium ibi inter Conſtantinum M. & Licinium recenter habitum.* Gothofredus *in Philoſtorgium, p.* 352.

He

Secunda pugna Conſtantini adverſus Licinium, in Thracia facta, eodem anno contigit quo Cibalenſis, ut ex narratione Zoſimi, & auctoris ignoti colligitur. Quod quidem etiam hoc argumento demonſtrari poteſt. Poſt hoc prœlium pace inter Conſtantinum & Licinium facta, Conſules ſequenti anno facti ſunt Conſtantinus & Licinius, & in Occidente quidem annus ille inſcriptus eſt Conſtantino IV. & Licinio IV. Coſſ. in Orientis autem partibus Licinii nomen præpoſitum eſt hoc modo. Licinio Auguſto IV. & Conſtantino Aug. IV. Coſſ. ut legitur in Excerptis de Geſtis Conſtantini. Valeſius *in Euſebium*, p. 210.

He lived 60 years, and reigned 15. *Victor's* Epit. *Licinius à Conſtantino morte mulctatur: vel ut alii*
Hemelarius. *tradunt, quum filiam ſuam* Herinam *eo quod Chriſtiana eſſet, ab equis diſcerpi mandaſſet, ipſe adſtans & inſpecturus, equi morſu interfectus eſt.* Elenchus MS *Numiſmatum in Bibliotheca Bodleiana.*

In Muſas tibi trux odium eſt, ſed bellica virtus
Famam, qua poſſis nomen habere, dedit.
Boiſſardus.

Select

Select and Choice
FRENCH PROVERBS,
Some of which were collected out of *Gruterus*, *de la Noue*, *Meurier* and other Authors, divers obſerved by my ſelf when I was in *France*, Alphabetically diſpoſed and engliſhed, and compared alſo ſometimes with the Refranes or *Spaniſh*.

ABandon fait larron, ou autrement, *or otherwiſe*, Loccaſion fait le larron.
The ſenſe in Engliſh, *Faſt bind, ſaſt find.*

Qui fait nopces & maiſon il met leſen en abandon.
The buildings of Houſes, and making of Feaſts are unlimitted waſters of a mans ſubſtance.

Chien qui abbaye ne mord pas.
The barking dog bites little, or, he that ſayeth moſt, commonly does leaſt.

Il abbaye contre le lune.
He barks at the Moon.

Qui ſert commun, nul ne le paye, & ſil defaut chacun labbaye.
He that ſerves a Commonalty is controlled by every one, rewarded by none.

Sac-

Saccomoder au tems.

To ſerve the time, or to do as others do.

Mieur vaut eſtre ſeul, que mal accompagne.

It is better to be alone, than with idle, or ilſorted company.

Deur chiens ne ſaccordent point a un os.

Two cats and a mouſe, two wives in one houſe, two dogs and a bone, never agree in one.

Aller ou le Roy va a pied.

1. To the Stool.

To go where the King goes on foot.

Aller ſur la Hacquenee des Cordeliers.

To go upon the Franciſcans Hackney, 1. *to go a foot.*

Aimer n'eſt pas ſans amer.

Love is γλυκυπικρον a bitter ſweet.

Love is not without bitterneſs.

Ainſi va le monde.

So the world goeth.

Amaſſer en ſaiſon, deſpencer par raiſon, font la bonne maiſon.

A ſeaſonable gathering, and a reaſonable ſpending make a good houſe-keeping.

Amiens fut prinſe en Renard, reprinſe en Lion.

* Becauſe the Arch-Duke took it by a ſtratagem, and *Henry* the 4. regained it by force.

Amiens *was taken by the* * *Fox, retaken by the Lion.*

Amour peut moult, argent peut tout.

Love can do much, ſilver can do all.

Amour, toux, fumee & argent, on ne peut cacher longuement.

Love, the cough, ſmoke and money, cannot long be hidden by any.

L'on d'it auſſi

L'amour, la touſſe, & la galle ne ſe peuuent celer.

We

We ſay, *Love and the cough cannot be hidden.*

A Pere, à Maiſtre, à Dieu tout puiſſant,
Nul ne peut rendre l'equivalent.
To Father, Maſter, and God Al-ſufficient,
None can render equivalent.

A petit Mercier, petit panier.
A little Pedlar, a little pack.

Moutarde apres diſner.
After dinner muſtard.

Apres la mort le Medecin.
After death the Doctor.

Apres la pluye * vient le beau temps.
After rain comes fair weather.

* *Poſt nubila Phœbus.* After a ſtorm comes a calm.

A quoi penſez vous, quand vous ne penſiez rien ?

A vous reſpondre, quand vous me demandez rien.

On what think you when you think on nothing ?
To anſwer you, when you ask me nothing.

Argent contant porte medicine.
Ready money is a ready medicine.

A rude Chien faut dur lien.
A curſt Dog muſt be tyed ſhort.

Attente tourmente.
Expectation torments.

Au jourdhuy marrie, demain marri.
Married to day ſad to morrow.

A un bon Entendeur ne faut que demy mot.
Half a word is enough * *to an underſtanding Hearer.*

* *Verbum ſapienti.*

Autant de Pais, autant de couſtumes.
So many Countries, ſo many cuſtomes.

B

COmmander a baguette.
To command abſolutely, or with authority.
Si tu veux cognoiſtre un villain, baille lui la baguette en main.
The way to diſcern a Knave or Clown, is to give him authority.
Bailler de lavoine, pour du foin.
To return a benefit with uſurie.
Bailler du foin, a la mule.
To deceive or beguile.
Bailler ſurle nez du Roy.
To coin falſe money.
Bailler du plat de la langue.
To ſmooth or flatter.
Baiſer le babouin.
Baſely to ſubmit himſelf.
Grand bandon, grand larron.
Great liberty breeds much thievery, or much liberty brings men to the gallows.
Apres grand banquet, petit pain.
After feaſting, faſting.
Il neſt banquet que d'homme chiche.
There is no feaſt to the Miſers (and by a Miſers feaſt we mean) a plentiful, though a rare one.
Beau parler n'eſcorche pas la langue.
*Good * ſpeech fleas not the tongue.*
Beauté ſans bonte eſt comme vin eſventé.
Beauty without goodneſs is like wine that hath taken wind.

* We ſay, *Good words coſt nothing.* The Spaniards ſay, *It is much worth and coſts little, to give to evil words a good anſwer,* Refranes d'Oudin.

Belles

Belles filles ſe trouent au bourdeau, & les beaux hommes es mains du Boureau.

The faireſt woman in the Stews, and the banſom'ſt man at the Gallows.

Bon marché tire l'argent de la bourſe.

Good cheap commodities are notable pick-purſes.

Bon ſang ne peut mentir.

Good blood cannot ly.

A worthy nature cannot conceal itſelf.

Bonne renommee vaut mieux que ceinture doree.

A good renown is better than a golden girdle.

See *Prov.* 22. 1. This Proverb is well explained by *Bodin* de Repub. *l.* 5. *c.* 3. and *Paſquier* de Recherches de la *France*, *l.* 6. *c.* 11. Some make it all one with that Proverb, *The hood or habit makes not the Monk*, others ſay, that only women of a good name and not whores were ſuffered to wear a golden girdle. The *Spaniſh* Proverb is, *He that hath loſt his renown, is dead in the world.* The Engliſh is, *He who hath an ill name is half hanged.*

Bonne Terre mauvais Chemin.
Bon Advocat mauvais Voiſin.
Bonne Mule mauvaiſe beſte.
Bonne Femme mauvaiſe teſte.
Good Country and bad way.
Good Lawyer and bad Neighbour.
Good Mule and a bad beaſt.
Good woman and a bad head.

Borgne eſt Roy entre les aveugles.

He that hath one eye is a King among the blind.

C

MAl eſt caché a qui lon void le dos.
He ill conceals himſelf that ſhews his back.

Mieux vault eſtre oiſeau de bois que de cage.

The difference between liberty and thraldome.

Fol a 25 carats.

A fool beyond all proportion. (The fineſt Gold being but of 24 carrats.)

Au jourd huy caiſſier, demain caſſé.

To day caſh-keeper, to morrow caſſed. We ſay, *To day in requeſt, to morrow caſſed.*

La langue humaine, na point d'os.
Et caſſe poictrine et dos.

A Proverb expreſſing the force of a malicious, enraged, or infected tongue.

Qui a des noix il en caſſe, & qui nen a il ſen paſſe.

Many when they have ſuperfluities, can uſe them, and when they have none, can want them.

Tel a bonne cauſe, qui eſt condemné.

A good cauſe, often ſpeeds but badly.

Au chat cendreux jamais ne tombe rien en gueule.

The idle houſe-dove never getteth ought.

Ce qu'on apprend au bers, dure juſques aux vers.

That which one learns in youth, will continue till old age.

C'eſt la Philoſophie de Quenoville.

It is the Philoſophy of the Diſtaff.

C'eſt un mouton * de Berri, il eſt marque ſur le nez.

It is a ſheep of Berrie *it is marked upon the noſe.*

* It is the cuſtome of the Shepheards of that Province in *France* ſo to mark their Sheep, therefore if in brabling or otherwiſe one hath received a blow on the noſe and it appears, then men merrily ſay ſo.

C'eſt un bon harquebuſier, il viſe aux talons & frappe le nez.

* *It is a good Harquebuſier, it aims at the heels and hits the noſe.*

See *l'Etimologie des Proverbes Francois, l.* 3. *c.* 25.

C'eſt une toux de renard, qui nous menera au terrier.

* They ſpeak merrily of a fart.

It is a cough of the fox which will bring us to the grave. Bochart ſaith this is a Proverb uſual among them.

Chair de Mouton manger de Glouton.
Fleſh of Mutton is meat for a Glutton.

Chaſcun a ſon tour,
Le deviſe du Mounſieur de Guiſe.
Every one hath his turn,
The deviſe of the Duke of Guiſe.

Chaſcun eſt Roy en ſa maiſon.
Every one is King in his own houſe.

Commun n'eſt pas comme un.
The publick is not as private.

Courte meſſe, & long diſner.
Short Maſs, and long dinner.

D

DAme qui trop ſe mire peu file.
She that heeds her beauty much, tends her

her benefit but little. A proud and a good Houſewife are incompatible.

En moiſſons dames chambrieres ſont.

While harveſt laſts, all fell ws

Chacun neſt pas aiſe qui danſe.

Every one is not merry that dances. Of ſuch a one, we ſay; *His heart is not ſo light as his heels.*

Nimium altercand. veritas amittitur.

Par trop d batre le verite ſe perd.

By too much arguing truth is loſt.

Denier ſur denier baſtit le maiſon.

One penny after another builds the houſe, or by little and little great matters are effected.

Un jour juge de lautre, & le dernier juge de tous.

One day rules another, but the laſt overrules all.

Deux loups mangent bien vne brebis.

Two Wolves can make good ſhift with one poor ſheep.

Deux orgucilleux ne peuuent eſtre portes ſur un aſne.

One ſimple Aß cannot bear two proud perſons.

D'eau benite le moius ſuffit.

Of holy-water the leß ſufficeth.

De fol Juge brieve ſentence.

We ſay, *A fools bolt is ſoon ſhot.*

From a fooliſh Judge a quick ſentence.

De la pance vient la dance.

Dancing follows a full belly.

De mauvais payeur il faut prendre paille.

Of an ill pay-maſter take any thing.

Depuis

Depuis que Décret a prins ailes,
Et les gendarmes portent malles.
Et les moines vont a cheual,
En tout le monde n'a que mal.
Since the Decree hath taken wings,
And the Soldiers carry males,
And the Monks go a horſe back,
There is nothing but ill in all the world.

Desjuner de chaſſeurs, diſner d'Advocats.

Souper de Marchands, & collation de Moines.

The Huntſmans breakfaſt, the Lawyers dinner.

The Merchants ſupper, and the Monks drinking.

De trois choſes Dieu nous garde,
De Beuf ſalé ſans Moutarde,
D'un Valet qui ſe regarde,
D'une Femme qui ſe farde.
From three things God keep us,
From powderd Beef without muſtard,
From a Servant which vieweth himſelf,
From a Woman which painteth.

Du cuir d'autruy large courroye.
A large thong of anothers leather.

E

EAu benite de Cour.
Court holy-water;

Medecin deau douce.
A young or unexperienced Phyſitian.

Amener leau au moulin.
To draw in gain.

Peſcher

Peſcher en eau troublè.
To ſeek for gain.
Qui mal entend mal reſpond.
He that underſtands wrong, anſwers awry.
A mal exploicter bien ecrit.
A fair pretence for a foul act. Good words after evil deeds.
Tel ſexcuſe, qui ſaccuſe.
Some when they mean to excuſe, accuſe themſelves.
En goutres Medicin ne voit Goutte.
The Phyſitian ſees but little in the Gout.
En Orenge il n'ya point d'Oranges.
*In Orange * there are no Oranges.*
En Pont, en Planche, & en Riviere.
Valet devant Maiſtre derriere.
On Bridge, on Plank, and on River,
*The Servant before, and Maſter * after.*
Entre deux ſelles le cul a terre.
Between two ſtools the tail to the ground.
Entre la bouche & le verre,
Le vin ſouvent tombe a terre.
Between the lip and the cup
The wine is often ſpilt.
Eſchorcher le *Renard.
To flea the Fox.

* The Prince of *Orange* his Country is fertil of all fruits ſave Oranges, whence came this Proverb, ſaith *Iodocus Sincerus* in his *Itinerarium Galliæ.*

* Like to this is the Spaniſh Proverb, *Al gran arroyo paſſer poſtrero.* At a great River one ſhould paſs laſt. *Multa cadunt inter calicem ſupremaque labra.*

* To ſpue, caſt, vomit, (eſpecially upon exceſſive drinking) either becauſe then one makes a noiſe like a Fox which barks, or becauſe the flaying of ſo unſavory a beaſt will make any man vomit. See *l'Etymologie des Proverbes Francois*, l. 2. c. 33.

Eſtre ſur la bord de la foſſe.
To be upon the brink of the pit.
Alterum pedem in cymba charon tis habere.

Du

F

DU dire au faict, y a grand traict.
There is great difference between words and deeds.
Bien faict n'eſt jamais perdu.
One ſeldome loſes by a good deeds doing.
Encor na pas faille qui a áruer.
He hath not miſt that hath one throw to caſt.
Il neſt ſi bon qui ne faille.
The beſt men have their faults, the honeſteſt their errors.
La faim chaſſe le loup hors du bois.
Hunger drives the Wolf out of the wood.
A la faim ni a point de mauvais pain.
To him that's hungry any bread ſeems good.
Fais ce que tu dois, advienne ce que pourra.
Do thou thy duty, happen what hap may.
Il fait aſſes qui fait faire.
He doeth hurt, or good enough, that makes it to be done.
La fin fait tout.
The end proves all, or is all in all.
Faire de Chaſteaux en *Eſpagne.*
To build Caſtles in Spain.
We ſay, *to build Caſtles in the air.*
Faire de ſon Medecin ſon heritier.
To make his Phyſitian his heir.
Faire grand cas de peu de choſe.
To make great account of a little thing.
Femme, argent & vin

On

Ont leur bien & leur venin.
Women, money and wine,
Have their good and their evil.

Femme rit quand elle peut & pleure quand elle veut.
A Woman laughs when she can, and weeps when she will.

Fille feneſtriere & trotiere,
Rarement bonne m-ſnagere.
A gazing and gadding Maid ſeldome proves a good Houſe-wife.

Beneficium accepiſti, libertatem vendidi iſti. Terence.

Fille qui donne s'abandonne.
A Maid which giveth is eaſily g tten.

Pitiſſando dolium exhauritur. Terence.

Fille qui prend ſon Corps vend.
A maid that takes ſels her body.

Fille trope veue, robbe trop veſtuë, n'eſt paſt chere tenue.
A maid often ſeen, a garment often worn,
Are diſeſteemed and held in ſcorn.

The Italian Proverb is: *A woman that taketh is eaſily yielding.*

Formage, poir, & pain,
Eſt repas de vilain.
Cheeſe, bread, and pevr,
Is the Husbandmans fare.

Les plus courtes folies ſont les meilleures.
The ſhorteſt follies are the beſt.

* Prov. 17.28 *Si ſapiens ſtultus, ſi ſtultus ſapiens.*

Fols ſont ſages quond ils ſe taiſent.
Fools are wiſe men when they hold their * *peace.*

G

ASſes gaigne qui malheur perd.
He gets enough that miſſes an ill turn.
Il neſt marchand, qui toujours gaigne.
He trades not cunningly that alwaies gaineth.
Tel change, qui ne gaigne pas.
Some change for the worſe.
Hardi gaigneur, hardi mangeur.
They that work hard, eat hard.
Mieux vaut bon gardeur, que bon gaigneur.
A good keeper is better than a good gainer.
Ourrier gaillard cele ſon art.
The induſtrious workman proſtitutes not his art.
Le petit gain emplit la bourſe.
Light gains make heavy purſes.
Goutte a goutte la Mer s'eſgoutte.
By drop and drop the Sea runs out.
Homme chiche jamais riche.
A covetous man is never rich.
Semper avarus eget.
Home roux & femme barbue,
De trente pas loin le ſalue,
Avecques trois pierres au poing,
Pour t'en aider a ton beſoing.
Salute no red hair'd man, nor bearded woman nearer than thirty foot off, with three ſtones in thy fiſt to defend thee in thy need.

H

L'Habit ne fait pas le moine.
'Tis not the habit (but the heart) that makes a man religious.

Haine

Haine de Prince, ſignifie mort d'homme.
A Princes hate, imports the death of a man.
Nul bien ſans haine.
No happineſs without hatred.
Oncques n'ayma bien qui pour peu haït.
He never ſoundy loved that hateth for a toy.
Le cacque (ou la poche) ſent toujours le harene.
The poke ſtill of the herring ſmells.
Chien hargneux, a toujours les oreilles d'eſchirees.
A brabling curre is never without torn ears
Qui trop ſe haſte en cheminant en beau chemin ſe four voye ſouvent.
The more haſt the worſe ſpeed, or,
They that make too much haſt miſtake the faireſt way.

I

JEuneſſe oiſeuſe, vieilleſſe diſetteuſe.
An idle youth makes a needy old age.
The Italian Proverb is, *A young man idle, an old man needy.*
Il a touſiours une * aulne de boyaux vuides, pour feſtoyer ſes amis.
*He hath alwayes an ell * of empty guts to feaſt his friends withal.*
Il eſt bien avance qui a bien commencé.
He is well advanced who hath begun well.
Dimidium facti qui bene cæpit, habet.
Il a beau mentir qui vient de loin.
A Traveller may lye by authority.
Il gaſte comme le fange de Paris.

* This is ſpoken of one that hath a great appetite, the ſecond ſmall gut is named, *Jeiunum*, becauſe it is alwaies void, whence ſpringeth this Proverb.

It

It ſtaineth like the dirt of Paris, Lutetia à luto.

Il a la conſcience large, comme la manche d'un Cordelier.

He hath a conſcience as large as a Franciſcans ſleeve.

Me quaſi pilam habet Plautus.

Il joüe de moy a la pelotte.

He playes at foot-ball with me.

Il ment comme un Aracheur de dents.

He lyeth like a Tooth-drawer.

Il n'eſt eſchappe qui traine ſon lien.

He is not quite got away who drags his chain after him.

Il n'eſt jamais feu ſans fumée.

There is never fire without ſome ſmoak.

Il n'y a pire ſourd que celuy qui ne veut oüir.

There is none ſo deaf as he that will not hear.

Il ny a tant des Moutons en Berry

There be not ſo many ſheep in * *Berry.*

* There is ſuch ſtore of Sheep in that Province, that they have this by-word when they would taxe a fellow for his notable lying, and telling a greater number then the truth.

Il ni a que la premiere pinte chere.

The firſt pint is the deareſt.

Il vaut mieux tard que jamais.

It is better late than never.

Ils ont du coeur, mais les jambes leur faillent.

They have more ſtomack than ſtrength.

Qui na cœur ait jambes.

Let him that hath not a heart have heels.

Un vieil chien jamais ne jappe en vain.

An old dog never barks in vain. We ſay, *the warning or adviſe of an old man is ever to ſome purpoſe.*

Meſchante parole jettee va par tout a la volee.

A bad word blurted out (ſoon) *roaveth all a broad*

A vray dire perd on le jeu.

By ſpeaking truth men (often) *loſe their game.*

Apres la feſte & le jeu, les pois au feu.

Thoſe that will make good ſhift, muſt after play uſe thrift,

Il fait bon laiſſer le jeu, qu'and il eſt beau.

Tis good leaving at play when it is at the faireſt, or, *Tis good to leave* (*when one hath got*) *at play.*

Jeu, putain, & vin friand
Font l'homme pauure en riand.

Play, a whore, and brisk wine make a man poor laughing.

The Italian Proverb (whence this ſeems to be borrowed) is, *Play, women, and wine conſume a man laughing.*

L

L'Un a le bruit, lautre lave la laine.

The one gets the credit, the other takes the pains.

Qui na laine, boive a la fontaine.

Let him that hath not wool drink at the well.

On ne doit pas laiſſer bonne terre pour mauvais Seigneur.

Rich Land muſt not be left for a rigorous Land-Lord, nor a good Country quit becauſe tis governed by a bad Prince.

Hardie

Hardie langue, couarde lance.

Couragious language, a cowardly lance, or, thoſe that brag moſt, execute leaſt.

Longue Langue courte main.

Thoſe that promiſe moſt, perform leaſt.

Qui langue a, á Rome va.

He that knows what, and when to ſpeak, may travel any whither.

Mieux vaut gliſſer du pied, que de la langue.

Better may a foot ſlip, then the tongue trip.

Longues paroles, font les jours courts.

Long diſcourſes make ſhort dayes.

La belle plume fait le bel oyſeau.

The fair fair feathers make fair a fowl. *

L'appetit vient en mangeant, & la ſoif s'en va en beuvant.

The ſtomack comes by eating, the thirſt is quencht by drinking.

L'aſne du common eſt tousjours malbaſté.

The common Aſſe is alwayes ill ſadled.

La ſoye eſteint la feu de la Cuiſine.

*Silk * doth quench the fire of this Kitchin.*

La trop longue demeurer fait changer l'amy.

Too long abiding cauſeth a friend to change.

L'eau qui dort eſt pire qui celle qui court.

The ſtanding water is worſe than that which runs.

Le couſt en fait perdre le gouſt.

The coſt takes away the deſire to the thing.

Le

* See *l'Etymologie des Proverbes Francois.* l. 1. c. 4.

* Sumptuouſneſs of apparel deſtroyes Hoſpitality and good Houſe-keeping.

Le desir nous tormente & l'espoir nous contente.

Desire torments us, and hope comforts us.

Le maison est malheureuse & mechante,
Où le Poul plus haute que le coq chante.

The house is unhappy and wicked, where the hen crieth louder than the cock.

Le mari veut (& doit) estre maistre, la femme veut (& doit) estre maistresse, mais non pas de son mari.

The husband will and ought to be master, the wife will and ought to be mistris, but not of her husband.

Les mots termines en ique font au Medecin la nique.

* Such be *Hectique, Paralitique Apoplectique, Lethargique*, because they are hardly or never cured.

*The words ending in * ique do mock the Physician.*

Le plaisir engendre l'autre.

One good turn requires another.

Le Royaume du France ne tombe point en quenouille.

Lex salica Gallorum, imperii successor masculus esto.

The Kingdom of France falls not to the distaffe.

Les Apprentiss ne sont pas incontinent maistres.

The Prentises are not presently Masters.

Les bons rendeurs font les bons prestеurs

Good restorers make good lende.s

Le Soleil qui se leve matin,
La Femme qui parle latin,
L'enfant qui boit du vin,
Font rarement bonne fin.

The Sun which shineth early in the morning,

A Woman which ſpeaketh Latin,
A Child that drinketh wine,
Seldom make a good end.

Le teſte d'une Femme,
La corps d'un Serjeant,
Les jambes d'un Lacquai,
C'eſt un Diable parfaict.

The head of a Woman,
The body of a Serjeant,
The leggs of a Lacky
Make a Devil perfect.

Le vin ſe cognoiſt à la ſaveur, & le drap à la coleur.

Wine is known by its ſmell, and cloth by its colour.

Lire beaucoup & rien n'entendre,
C'eſt beaucoup chaſſer & rien prendre.

To read much and underſtand nothing,
Is to hunt much and catch nothing.

M

MA chemiſe blanche
Baiſe mon cu chaque dimanche.

My fair ſhirt kiſſe me behinde once a week.

Bonne la maille, qui ſauve le denier.

Well is the half penny ſpent, that ſaves a penny.

Main lavee, moins levee.

The more good parts one hath, the leſs he ſhould boaſt of them.

A main lavee Dieu mande la repuë.

God ſends the upright all neceſſary food.

Pour laver les mains, on nen vend pas ſa terre.

A clean waſht hand, makes no man ſell his Land.

De mains vuides, prieres vaines.

Empty hands (had Orators) make intreatie prove idle.

Vne main, lave lautre.

One hand waſhes the other; applyable to ſuch as give upon aſſurance, or hope to be given unto; or unto ſuch as any way ſerve one anothers turn.

Il faut acheter maiſon faitte, & femme a faire.

Purchaſe a houſe ready made, but let thy Wife be of thine own making.

Manger * ſon pain blanc le premier.

To eat his white bread firſt.

* It is ſpoken of thoſe who in their youth have all proſperity, bu in the end ſorrow and care.

Mars venteux, & Auril pluvieux font le May gay & gracieux.

A windy March, and rainy April make a May trim and gay.

N

LE mal an entre en nageant.

The unſeaſonable year, begins with rain.

Celuy peut hardiment nager a qui lon ſouſtient le menton.

A favorite of the time, or of authority, may boldly ſwim where another would ſink.

Il ne faut apprendre aux poiſſons a nager.

We muſt not teach a fiſh to ſwim; a Scholar to read, a Maſter to work.

Pour

Pour neant demande conſeil, qui ne le veut croire.

In vain the incredulous councel asketh.

Pour neant recule, qui malheur attend.

They that ill luck attend, give back unto no end.

Pour neant va au bois, qui marrein ne cognoiſt.

To no purpoſe goes he, who knows not wood, unto the wood.

Neceſſite eſt lamoitié de laraiſon.

We ſay, *That neceſſity has no Law.*

Neceſſite fait trotter les vieilles.

Need makes the old wife trot (ſay we.)

Tel a neceſſité, qui ne s'en vante pas.

Some are in greater want, than they will vaunt of.

N'irritez point les chiens, au paravant que vos ſoies aux pierres.

Provoke not the Dogs before you be at the ſtones.

Nouer l'eſguillette.

*To tye the * point.*

* A Charm which they uſe to hinder a man from accompanying with his wife.

Nourriture paſſe nature.

Nurture ſurpaſſeth nature.

Nul bien ſans peine.

No good without pain and labour.

This Proverb is meant principally of vertue, it comes not without labour.

O

ALœil malade la lumiere nuit.

An eye diſtemperd, cannot brook the light,

or, ſick thoughts cannot endure the truth.

Orgueil napas bon œil.

Pride looks not well on any.

Qui na quun œil bien legarde.

Let him that hath but one eye keep it well, or, Let him that hath but one help, ſtrive to preſerve it.

A tous oiſeaux, leurs nids ſont beaux.

To every bird her neſt ſeems fair: or, Moſt men like houſes of their own contriving.

Vieil oiſeau, neſe prend a reths.

The old (in experience) are not ſubject to ſurpriſal.

Apres paſques, & rogation, fy, depreſtre & d'oignon.

After the week of Eaſter, and rogation, A Prieſt and onyons are abomination.

Si tu te trouues ſans chapon ſois content depain & d'oignon.

If thou want a capon, fall to bread and an onion; or let not the want of dainties diſcontent thee.

Oy, voy, & te tais, ſi tu veux vivre en pais.

Hear, ſee, and be ſilent, if thou wilt live in peace.

Audi, vide, tace, ſi vis vivere in pace.

Oignez vilain, il vous poindra, poignez vilain il vous oindra.

Sooth a Clown and he will deal roughly with you, deal roughly with him, and he will ſpeak you fair.

The Italian Proverb is, *Do good to a Clown,*

Clown, he wiſheth thee evil for it, do him an evil turn and he wiſheth thee good for it.

On ne doit parler Latin devant les Clercs.

One muſt take heed to ſpeaking Latine before Schollars.

On ne prend pas le lieure au ſon de Tambour.

Men catch not a Hare with the ſound of a Drum.

On ne ſcait, que la choſe vaut, juſqu' à tant qu'on l'ait perdue.

One knows not what a thing is worth till he have loſt it.

The Spaniſh Proverb is, Buen perdido ay conocido. *A good thing loſt is known.*

Bonum magis carendo quàm fruendo cognoſcimus.

Oui dire va par ville.

Hear-ſay goes throughout the town.

P

PApe par voix, Roy par nature, Empereur per force.

The Pope comes by voices, the King by nature, the Emperor by force.

Par don, on a pardon.

By a gift one obtains a pardon.

Par l'eſchantillon on cognoiſt la piece.

By a pattern one knows the whole piece.

Petite pluye abbat grand vent.

A ſmall rain allaies a great wind.

Poiſſon ſans vin eſt poiſon.

Fiſh without wine is poiſon.

Pour un plaiſir mille douleurs.

For one pleaſure a thouſand ſorrows.

Qui tient la parlle par la queue, la tourne ou il veut.

He that holds a frying pan by the tail, may turn it which way he liſt.

La paelle ſe mocque du fourgon.

Said, *When one friend or fellow derides another.*

A telle paelle tel fourgon.

One ſloven matcht with another.

Avec le temps & la peille l'on meure les meſles.

In time, and ſtraw are medlers mellowed.

Nul grain, ſans paille.

No corn without ſome chaff.

Pain, tant quil dure, vin a meſure.

Eat at pleaſure, drink by meaſure.

Ou pain faut, tout eſt a vendre.

Where bread is wanting all is to be ſold.

Crouſtes de paſtes, valent bien pain.

Peeces of pie-cruſt are as good as bread; or, he doth not wrong that giveth cake for bread.

De tout s'aviſe, a qui pain faut.

Neceſſity invented all good Arts; Want, more than any thing, makes men induſtrious.

Q

QUand Italie ſera ſans poiſon, France ſans trahiſon, Angleterre ſans guerre, lors ſera le monde ſans terre.

When Italy *ſhall be without poiſon,* France *without*

without treaſon, England *without war*, *the World ſhall be without earth.*

Quand le danger eſt paſſe, le Sainct eſt oublié.

When the danger is paſt the Saint is forgotten.

Quand le ſoleil eſt couché tons les beſtes ſont à l'ombre.

When the Sun is ſet all the beaſts are in the ſhade.

Un quartier fait lautre vendre.

One quarter makes th' other to be ſold.

A la quenoville le fol ſa'genoville.

Fools kneel to Diſtaves, weak men unto women.

On ne doit point querir brebis qui ce veut perdre.

The ſheep which will be loſt muſt not be looked for.

La queue eſt le pire a eſcorcher.

The laſt is hardeſt to be done.

A la queue, giſt le venin. *Appliable to ſuch as reſerve the diſcovery, or execution of their villanous projects unto the concluſion of a buſineſs.*

Le renard cache ſa queue.

The cunning Knave conceals what would diſcover him.

Vache ne ſcait, que vault ſa queue, juſques ace quelle lait perdue.

We know not the worth of things till we have loſt them.

Quatres bonnes meres engendrent quatre mauvaiſes filles, Grande familiarite

meſpris, verite haine, vertu envie, richeſſe ignorance.

Four good mothers beget four bad daughters, great familiarity contempt, truth hatred, vertue envie, riches ignorance.

Qui a bon voiſin, il a bon matin.

Eſt aliquod bonum propter vicinum bonum

He that hath a good neighbour hath a good morrow.

Qui a le bruit de ſe lever matin peut dormir juſques à diſner.

He that hath the fame of riſing early may ſleep till dinnner.

Qui a terre il a guerre.

He that hath land hath alſo ſtrife.

Qui monte plus haut qu'il ne doit, deſcend plus bas qu'il ne voudroit.

He that mounteth higher than he ought, ſhall deſcend lower than he would.

Matrem proles ſequitur.

Qui naiſt de geline il ayme a gratter.

He that comes from an Hen loves to be ſcratting.

See *l'Etymologie des Proverbes Francois, l. 2. c. 15.*

Qui parle du loup, il en void la queue.

*He that ſpeaks of the * Wolf, ſees his tail.*

* Like to which is both the Latine Proverb, *Lupus in fabula,* See *Eraſm. Adag.* and the Arabick, *Quando mentionem feceris lupi, præpara illi baculum.*

While the Shepherds talk of the Wolf he comes ſometimes, ſo doth he often of whom we ſpeak.

Qui regimbe contre l'aiguillon, merite d'en eſtre picque deux fois.

He that kicks againſt the pricks, deſerves to be pricked twice.

Qui veut jeune chair & vieux poiſſon, ſe trove repugner la raiſon.

He that loves young fleſh and old fiſh, loves contrary to reaſon.

Qui

Qui veut manger de noiaus, qu'il caſſe la noix.

He that will eat the kernel, let him break the nut. *Qui vult nucleum, nucem frangat oportet.*

R

REmede contre la Peſte par art.
Fuir toſt & loing, retourner tard. *Cito longe, tarde.*

An artificial remedy againſt the Plague, to flie ſwift and far, and return ſlowly.

Rendre la pareille. *Par pari referre.*

To render the like.

Retournons a nous moutons.

Let us return to our ſheep.

This Proverb is uſed when in ſome long diſcourſe, one having made ſome digreſſion from the matter, will return to the thing he firſt ſpake of.

The original of it is taken from Shepherds which ſometimes leave their Sheep to ſolace themſelves while they feed, but fearing danger to them, after ſay, *Let us return to our Sheep.*

Rouge ſoir & blanc matin.
C'eſt le plaiſir du Pellerin,

The evening red and the morning gray,
Are hopeful ſigns of a fair day.

The Italian ſaith, *The evening red, and the morning duskie joyeth the Traveller.* See of the French Proverb *l'Etymologie des proverbes François, l.1.c.6.*

Telle racine, telle fueille.

Such root (We ſay, *ſuch tree*) *ſuch fruit.*

Qui veut tuer ſon chien, lui met la rage ſus.

He

He that will hang his dog, pretends he is mad.

Apres raire, ny a que tonder.

Sheeres after ſhaving find no work to do.

A barbe de fol, on apprend a raire.

By trimming fools about the gill, or barbers prentice learn his skil: unſeemly preſidents are warnings to the wiſe.

Un barbier rait lautre.

One great man, rich man, cunning man, ſerves anothers turn.

Mets raiſon en toy, ou elle s'y mettra.

Let reaſon rule, or it will over-rule thee.

A barbe de fol, le raiſoir eſt mol.

A gooſe will brooke any jeaſt, or put up any abuſe.

Faire la barbe a quelqu'un ſans vaſoir.

To affront, brave, or abuſe one.

S

SI l'eſpine non picque quand nai,
A peine que picque jamais,

A thorn unleſſe at firſt it prick,
Will hardly ever pierce to th'quick.

Souvent & peu manger,
Ce faict l'homme engraiſſer.

Often and little eating makes a man fat.

D'un ſac a charbon, ne peut ſortir que de la pouſſiere noire.

Nought but black duſt from Colliers ſacks can come. A vicious man will be lewd in his talk.

Es petits ſacs, ſont les fines eſpiceries.

The

The little head, a dainty wit contains.

Avarice rompt le ſac.

The miſer coveting to make his bags hold over much breaks them.

Il ne peut ſortir du ſac, que ce quil y a dedans & on ne peut tirer du ſac que ce quy eſt.

You can have no more of a cat but her skin; or, there can come no more (no other ſtuff) from a man that is in him.

Femme ſafre & yurongneſſe, de ſon corps neſt pas maiſtreſſe.

A wanton and wine-bibbing dame, her body yeilds to open ſhame.

Chaſcun eſt ſage apres le coup.

An after wit, is every bodies wit.

Un ſol adviſe bien un ſage.

A fool may ſome times give the wiſe adviſe.

T

TAble d'abbé ou de prelat.

A plentiful, or well furniſhed boord.

Table ſans ſel, bouche ſans ſalive.

An unlearned diſcourſe is (commonly) as vain, as meat without ſalt is unſavory.

Table vaut eſcole notable.

Table diſcourſe is an excellent School-Maſter.

Ronde table oſte le debat.

Round tables take away contention.

De toute taille bon leurier.

There are good, and bad, valiant and cowardly, ſtrong and weak, of all ſhapes and ſizes.

Eaire

Taire & faire ſont requis par mer & par terre.

Be doing ſtill, and ceaſe to talk,
Whether by ſea or land thou walk.

Bien dire fait rire, bien faire fait taire.

Wee laugh at good words, but admire good deeds.

Tout ouir, tout voir & uien dire. (Ou ſe taire) merite on tout tems, qu'on ladmire.

To hear all, ſee all, and ſay naught, merits, eternal admiration.

Tel refuſe qui apres muſe.

He refuſeth who after bethinks himſelf.

Tout ſe qui reluiſt n'eſt pas or,
All is not gold that gliſtereth.

Toſt ou tard, prez au loing,
Le fort du foible à beſoign.

Soon or late, near or far, the ſtrong hath need of the weak.

Trois choſes ſont d'un accord,
L'Egliſe, la Court, & la Mort,
L'Egliſe prend de vif & mort,
La Court prend le droict & le tort,
La Mort prend le foible & le fort.

Three things agree in the world; The Church, the Court, and Death, The Church takes the living and the dead, the Court right and wrong, Death the weak and ſtrong.

The Italians have the like Proverb,

Three things are much of nature:
A Prieſt, an Atturney, and Death;
The Prieſt taketh from the living & the dead;
The Atturney right and wrong,

And

And death taketh along with it both weak and ſtrong.

Trop grater cuiſt, trop parler nuiſt.

Too much ſcratching ſmarts, too much ſpeaking hurts.

Tu as frappe au blanc.

Thou haſt hit the white. *Rem acu tetigiſti.*

Tu as memoire du Lieure ou Lapin, tu la pers en courant.

Thou haſt as much memory as a Hare or Coney, thou haſt loſt it in running. The Cony by reaſon of his fear is very forgetful. whence came this Proverb,

V

AUſſi toſt meurt vache comme veau.

The skipping Calf, and wanton Lamb,
Are often kill'd before their dam.

Qui plus quil n'a vaillant deſpend;
I fait la corde a quoy ſe pend.

He that fears not to ſpend more than he hath;
Sets, at the leaſt, one foot ith' Hangmans path.

Cheval fait & valet a faire.

Chuſe a horſe made, a ſervant to be made.

Apres grande vall ée, rude montee.

After great reſt, much toyle, after much eaſe great pain.

Apres grande montee, grande vallee.

They that the higheſt climb, the loweſt fall.

Un coup de langue nuiſt plus qu'un coup de lance.

A word hurts more then a wound.

Un grand Seigneur,
Un grand Clochier,

Une

Une grande Riviere
ſont trois mauvais Voiſins.

A great Lord,
A great Bell,
A great River
are three ill Neighbours.

Une bonne femme eſt une mauvaiſe beſte.

A good Wife is an ill beaſt.

Oftentimes in the contracted inſcriptions of ancient Tombes theſe 2 capital letters, M. B. *have been found which ſignify* Mulier Bona *in French* Bonne Femme. *Some Drollers finding that theſe 2 letters* M.B. *ſignifie as well* Mala beſtia *as* Mulier bona; *thrice uſed this Proverb.*

Un homme de paille vaut une femme d'or.

A man of ſtraw is worth a woman of gold.

That is, to teach or profeſs no more, 1 *Cor.* 2.2.

Un Miniſtre ne doit ſcavoir que ſa Bible.

A Miniſter ought to know no more than his Bible.

Mocking thoſe that eat by the way.

Vouz mangez voſtre chemin, par ou retournerez vous.

You eat your way, which way will you return?

FINIS.

Theſe two, *viz.* *Diadumenianus* and *Maximus* being very comely perſons, for the Readers ſatisfaction, are more exactly here preſented to his view.

Diadumenianus.

Maximus.